

Hafa Adai!

Wolfgramm to giveaway 1,000 free concert tickets. **PAGE 3**
Filing of candidacy for Nov. 6 election starts Monday. **PAGE 5**

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75¢

JON PEREZ
Tourists continue to visit the top of Mt. Tapochau despite the rains and strong winds brought by Tropical Storm Maria yesterday.



Tropical Storm Maria causes damage to Rota's power system, moves away

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Tropical Storm Maria moved away

from the Marianas last night after it caused damage to the power system on Rota, resulted in closure of government offices and courts, brought

minor flooding in the CNMI, and cancelled all flights of STAR Marianas at the Saipan airport.

There have been no reports of per-

sonal injury or property damage, according to CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency external affairs officer Nadine C.

Deleon Guerrero.

As of 6pm yesterday, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres announced that it's "all

See **STORM** on **Page 4**

'8K new CW permits immediately available'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (MP-Ind) yesterday allayed fears that if the Northern Mariana Islands U.S. Workforce Act of 2018, popularly known as CW bill, would

» **Kilili allays fears DHS may delay enactment**



Sablan

sional office

become a law that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary may delay the effective date of the law.

Sablan said once President Donald J. Trump signs the bill into law, the Northern Marianas' congressional office will be working with

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to assure that the 8,001 new CW permits created by the U.S. Workforce Act for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1, 2018 are im-

See **8K** on **Page 4**

Torres: Denied applications can be resubmitted

By **JON PEREZ**
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Torres

All denied CW permits could be again submitted once President Donald Trump signs House

Resolution 5956 or the Northern Mariana Islands Workforce Act of 2018, according to two officials who were part of the CNMI

See **TORRES** on **Page 4**

INSIDE



LOCAL

The CNMI's first Disability Sports Festival that was scheduled for this weekend has been postponed until further notice due to inclement weather.

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WORLD

A rescue ship carrying 60 migrants arrived Wednesday in a Spanish port after being refused entry by Italy and Malta.

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LIFE & STYLE

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Local

Constitutional amendment unenforceable

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Attorney General Edward Manibusan stated that a Senate legislative initiative is looking to adjust a section in the CNMI Constitution that was already deemed as no longer enforceable by a previous Supreme Court ruling.

Commenting on Sen. Jude Hofschneider's (R-Tinian) Senate Legislative Initiative 20-03, Manibusan noted that the initiative is seeking to amend Article XI, section 5(g), while according to the previous Supreme Court ruling in the Department of Public Lands v. Commonwealth

case, they deemed section 5 in its entirety as no longer "constitutionally operative."

Manibusan wrote to Sen. Francisco Borja (R-Tinian), chairman of the Senate Committee on Resources, Economic Development, and Programs a letter dated June 12, 2018 his comments on S.L.I. 20-03. Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) referred S.L.I. 20-03 to the committee at a previous session.

S.L.I. 20-03 seeks to amend Article XI, section 5(g) to authorize DPL to reserve funds for the development of roadways and water and power infrastructures on homestead developments.

"...Funds available for capital improvement projects are insufficient to pay for all the necessary costs involved in installing the water and power infrastructure necessary for all the homestead developments," the legislative initiative noted.

The CNMI Constitution only allows DPL to erect infrastructure improvements on the homestead lot with the exception of water, power, and sewage installations as ruled in another previous court ruling.

"If the committee wishes to move forward with an amendment to the Constitution, the committee should consider a comprehensive amendment to Article XI, which eliminates the references to the abolished Marianas Public Land Corp. and sets out the general public land policies of the Commonwealth," wrote Manibusan.

Manibusan further noted that the Legislature and Executive branch are "free to set the policies for the body tasked with the management and disposition of public lands as they see fit, provided that they do so within their constitutional limitations," citing the Supreme Court ruling verbatim.



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KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

Leilani Wolfgramm, seventh from the right, poses for a photo with her entourage and Docomo Pacific crew following her press conference yesterday at the Docomo Pacific Gualo Rai Branch

Wolfgramm to giveaway 1,000 free concert tickets

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
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REPORTER

Famous international star Leilani Wolfgramm, in conjunction with the Saipan Mayor's Office, Roil Soil Clothing, and Docomo Pacific, will be giving away 1,000 free concert tickets to the community for her concert this Saturday at the Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe.

Yesterday, Docomo Pacific hosted a press conference for Wolfgramm and DJ Hoppaboy who arrived on Saipan this week in hopes of performing during the 2018 Liberation Day parade that was cancelled due to inclement weather.

During the press conference, Roil Soil Clothing co-owner Shane Villanueva shared the exciting news that Wolfgramm has agreed to give away 1,000 concert tickets to the first 1,000 individuals who visit the Saipan Mayor's Office anytime today. Free tickets are on a first-come, first-serve basis and individuals are permitted only one ticket each.

According to Villanueva, this is to make up for the inconvenience of last-minute changes to the concert venue and for the missed Liberation Day concert.

"We have a venue change... the venue is not going to be at Laolao [Bay Golf & Resort] anymore just because it's going to be dangerous for the crew to set up and also dangerous for the patrons so we are now going to have it at the Marianas Business Plaza... you won't get wet, there is going to be decent parking...

everything is still going to be there the only difference is that now we are not going to party in the rain so it'll be safer for everybody," he said.

As far as the expected Liberation Day festival, Villanueva said Wolfgramm, her crew, and DJ Happa Boy will hold a short acoustic set at the Marianas Business Plaza's parking area starting at 7pm to also make up for the July 4th concert.

"The mayor has agreed, we worked something out really last minute...and we came up with the idea to perform a really short set... We are going to be doing a small acoustic set tomorrow night [today] at the Marianas Business Plaza at 7pm that will be free for the public," he said.

Wolfgramm's concert will be held this Saturday starting

at 3pm at the Marianas Business Plaza parking area and will feature DJ Happa Boy, a Guam band called Mix Plate, and local artists and bands like Uprooted, Micro Mix, the Micronesian Project, DJ Ken, and Gahdi.

Wolfgramm said that the community should expect nothing less than good vibes and an incredibly fun, energetic party during her concert. "Just be ready to dance and feel the good vibes," she said.

Wolfgramm and DJ Happa

Boy noted that they are dedicated to giving the Saipan community the best concert possible.

When asked about her first impression of Saipan, Wolfgramm said that it felt like being back home.

"When I stepped off the plane, it was like I was back in Orlando. It was that humidity that I love and just all the greenery and all these families that came together to see someone off...just that it's a very family oriented place," she said.

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CUC has yearlong plan for storm conditions

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has planned for the whole year to be prepared in handling storm conditions, in order to avoid a repeat of what the island had gone through after Typhoon Soudelor's onslaught in 2015.

CUC deputy executive director William Gilmore told *Saipan Tribune* that replacing wooden power poles to sturdier concrete poles is part of the plan. "CUC plans year round to be prepared to handle storm conditions."

"We have also been replac-

ing a significant number of wooden [power] poles with [concrete] poles to harden the power distribution system," Gilmore added in an email sent to *Saipan Tribune*.

The replacement of power poles is part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's 406 hazard mitigation assistance program that included the project cost for labor, materials, and other equipment.

The assistance program, which was in cooperation the local Capital Improvement Project Administration, was 100 percent covered by FEMA. CUC is trying to meet

the August deadline of replacing 787 wooden power poles that Typhoon Soudelor damaged in 2015.

Gilmore said clearing of debris and landscaping grounds and other areas around the island's power poles are also part of their preparedness plans. "[It] includes eliminating materials that are lying loose that should be in stored in secure locations."

"We also have a significant landscape maintenance program around all of our power poles and ground facilities so that we can minimize any trees and [branches] from falling onto power lines," he added.

Gilmore said they had also filled CUC's warehouse with materials that could be used in replacing that would be damaged in case of a strong storm or typhoon. "We also make sure that critical materials are stored in the warehouse so that most potential damage has a replacement part."

"Just before a storm event begins to develop, CUC [fills] up all its fuel tanks on its vehicles and generators. A standby schedule is prepared for separate crews to report throughout the night. This allows for an immediate response by our fully trained crews," he added.

Senator wants to 'entrust' DPL with flexibility

By ERWIN ENCINARES

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REPORTER

A Rota senator wants to "entrust" the Department of Public Lands the authority to negotiate on flexible terms regulations that include fees and rental income.

During discussions on a communication from the DPL regarding the encroachment of business establishments within 150 feet of the high water mark, Sen. Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), said DPL should be allowed to negotiate basic rentals and fees as provided in

DPL regulations to take into consideration the varying economic conditions and other relevant factors.

He noted that a few investors lost interest on Rota after learning that there was a \$100,000 fee required to issue a request for proposal, which is usually the starting point of establishing a business in the CNMI.

He noted that Saipan economic conditions differ from that of Rota and Tinian's, further calling for the need for negotiations.

"How can we develop a Rota hotel or a dilapidated

facility...if we are going to impose similar conditions? On Saipan investors are lining up, so we need to have these detailed regulations," he said, adding that his Senate Bill 20-101, which is currently at the Senate Committee on Resources, Economic Development, and Programs for review. Sen. Francisco Borja (R-Tinian) chairs the committee.

"In order to encourage investors to come down to Rota, we need to give them some incentive," he said, emphasizing that he did not want to "throw away all the regulations" for

that purpose.

"We should entrust the secretary with a little flexibility," he added.

Manglona noted that with the many challenges Rota faces, such as the constant troubles of air travel, high shipping costs, and lack of infrastructure, the investors reportedly told him that they would rather funnel their money somewhere more convenient.

"If we do not have some kind of incentives that are available, we are never going to get these interested investors," he said.

Power outages

Gilmore said power lines downed by Typhoon Maria were the cause of several outages in some villages on Saipan. "CUC has had three outages that have lasted approximately one hour each all due to downed primary power lines. The last one in San Vicente was fixed at about 1pm."

8K

From Page 1

diately available—as the law stipulates.

Sablan made such assurance in response to *Saipan Tribune's* request for comments about lawyer Janet H. King's sharing good and bad news about passage of CW bill.

The U.S. Senate recently unanimously passed the bill that effectively extends the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker program for another 10 years. The legislation is now before Trump's desk for enactment.

King, a known immigration lawyer, said the good news is obvious: the number of CW1 permits in fiscal year 2019—the coming fiscal year—would now be up

He said that CUC relies on information provided by the public in addressing problems. "We rely extensively on calls into customer service to locate problems in the system."

CUC's hotline number is 236-4333 and customers can report downed power lines or poles and other disruption on power and water distribution.

to, but not exceed 13,000.

King said the DHS secretary must publish in the Federal Register an interim final rule on how to implement a system for allocating and determining terms and conditions of the CW1 permits.

King said the bad news is, the DHS secretary has up to 180 days after the law is enacted to do this, and the secretary may delay the effective date of the law until the effective date of the interim final rule.

In response to King's concerns, Sablan said during the final drafting of the U.S. Workforce Act, they solicited and received technical drafting assistance from DHS, including USCIS.

"So they are well informed about the legislative language of the bill," Sablan said.

TORRES

From Page 1

panel during the 902 Talks almost two years ago.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, who led the CNMI panel, said once H.R. 5956—introduced by Rep. Rob Bishop (R-UT)—becomes a law it would supersede all current provisions followed by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

"As of now, it's the same thing. They [White House] acknowledged that the President will be signing [H.R. 5956] in 10 days and so, we're really monitoring for any update from the administration," Torres told *Saipan Tribune* during an interview in last Tuesday night's opening of the NMI Soccer Training Center in Kobleville.

He added that they would inform the public once the bill is signed by Trump. The implementation of the provisions stated in H.R. 5956, once it becomes law, will be done in coordination with USCIS.

"Once signed, the CW numerical cap reverts back to 13,000. Those [petitions] that were denied will have the ability to be applied again," added Torres.

The current numerical limit is at 4,999 for fiscal year 2029 from 9,998 in FY 2018 based on what's set on the program followed by USCIS.

Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan), who was a member of the CNMI panel during the 902 Talks being the previous chair

of the CNMI House Federal and Foreign Relations committee, said H.R. 5956 would be implemented to the letter.

"As of [Tuesday], the communication from Washington [D.C.] is that the bill is already at the President's office and he is going to be signing it very shortly. Once signed, they are going to implement it to the letter of the law," said Demapan, who was among the legislators who were also present in last Tuesday's opening of the soccer center.

"So right now, the reduction that USCIS implemented is based on the existing law, which was based on the flawed H.R. 339. [H.R. 5956] is a fix and if this becomes a law, USCIS can now process applications pursuant to the new increase in the cap and the new extended transition period," added Demapan.

He said that they have yet to receive word if there would be changes on the procedure that USCIS follows in processing CW permit applications. "While we're not privy to the [information], whether there's going to be changes in the procedures, we anticipate it would be the same procedures that's been going on."

"The only change is the cap is restored and the transition period is extended. So for those who have yet to expire, pretty much for FY 2018, the window opens and they have a better likelihood that their renewals being processed because this will take affect for the new FY [2019]," added Demapan.

STORM

From Page 1

clear" for Saipan, Tinian, and Rota as Tropical Storm Maria moved away from the Marianas and no longer poses a threat to the CNMI.

As of 4pm yesterday, packing maximum sustained winds at 70 miles per hour, Tropical Storm Maria was moving northwest at 9mph. The center was 115 miles northwest of Guam, 120 miles west-northwest of Rota, 145 miles west-southwest of Tinian, 155 miles west-southwest Saipan, 265 miles southwest of Alamagan, and 285 miles south-southwest of Pagan.

The U.S. National Weather Service in Guam said Tropical Storm Maria is forecast to intensify over the next few days, possibly becoming a typhoon Thursday night or early today, Friday.

Deleon Guerrero said government operations are scheduled to resume back to normal this morning, Friday, and that the Saipan airport has reopened with all flights expected to resume as scheduled.

Shelters were opened yesterday on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, but no one sought refuge.

At Dandan Middle School, vice principal and shelter manager Reo Arriola and



FERDIE DE LA TORRE

A big trunk of a flame tree was split in half and part of it fell on the shoulder of Beach Road near Golden Beach Hotel due to strong winds and rain brought by Tropical Storm Maria.

maintenance/trades man Abel Valenzuela came to school Wednesday to prepare the cafeteria as a designated shelter.

Arriola said they opened the shelter since 9am yesterday, but as of 3:45pm yesterday no one came to seek refuge.

"It's a good sign that everybody's safe," he said.

HSEM external affairs officer/information officer Deleon Guerrero said with respect to the power system's damage on Rota, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. crew has identified the problem and is on standby to perform the necessary repairs after the "all clear" has been issued from HSEM as a safety precautionary measure.

Deleon Guerrero said no

power outages have been reported on Saipan and Rota.

The Executive and Legislative branches were closed at 8am yesterday, while the Superior Court, Supreme Court, Clerk of Courts, probation and related offices under the Judiciary were closed after lunch. The U.S. District Court was also closed at 12noon.

All government and autonomous agencies were closed. Summer classes have been cancelled.

Deleon Guerrero said the Commonwealth Health Center was open, but the Community Guidance Center in Navy Hill was closed.

Deleon Guerrero said flash flood watch remains in effect for Saipan, Tinian, and Rota

through this morning, Friday, as heavy rainfall is expected as Tropical Storm Maria passes through the Marianas.

She said due to its slow motion, there is potential for excessive rainfall and flooding, especially across Rota.

"Those living in areas prone to flooding should be prepared to take action should flooding develop," Deleon Guerrero said.

The big trunk of a flame tree split and its half fell into the shoulder of Beach Road near Gold Beach Hotel. Fortunately, no one was hit.

As of 4pm yesterday, despite rain several tourists were seen wading in the calm water and walking along the shore at Micro Beach.

Filing of candidacy for Nov. 6 election starts Monday

This Monday, July 9, is the start of filing the nominating petitions and candidacy for the Nov. 6 general election.

According to the Commonwealth Election Commission, Aug. 8 is the deadline for submission of nominating petitions and candidacy.

CEC has until Sept. 22 to take action on nominating petitions and candidacy documents.

The governor's and lieutenant governor's seats and 42 other government positions are up for grabs in the coming election.

CEC executive director Julita A. Villagomez earlier reminded those interested to run that if they are government employees they have



Villagomez

to take a leave once they are certified as candidates.

The executive director said elected officials, however, are not required to take a leave once CEC certifies them as candidates.

CEC is expecting the bulk of filing candidacy on the Aug. 8 deadline because most of them are government employees.

CEC said any recognized political party may nominate candidates by having its chairperson and secretary certify to CEC the names of the party's candidates by Aug. 8.

CEC said the certification must accompany the nominating petitions. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



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Senate passes Farm Bill minus cockfighting ban

Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo announced that the U.S. Senate passed its version of the Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018 (also known as the 2018 Farm Bill) by a vote of 86 to 11, without any provisions imposing the federal cockfighting ban on Guam or the other U.S. territories.

Bordallo, along with her colleagues from other territories, worked to defeat an

amendment offered by U.S. Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) that would have imposed the federal cockfighting ban onto the territories without our consent. Wyden is the Ranking Member of the Senate Subcommittee responsible for U.S. territories. U.S. Senators Susan M. Collins (R-ME), Cory A. Booker (D-NJ), Dean Heller (D-NV), and Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) cospon-

sored the Wyden amendment, which was ultimately not considered by the Senate.

Bordallo and her colleagues from the territories also worked to ensure that the version of the 2018 Farm Bill (S.3042) reported by the Senate Agriculture Committee on June 28, did not include any such provision.

On May 18, 2018, the U.S. House of Representatives adopted a similar amendment by a vote of 359 to 51, despite



Bordallo

Bordallo's strong objections and those of her House colleagues from the other territories.

The Senate and House will now reconcile their respective bills into a single, compromise 2018 Farm Bill, which will then be put to a final vote likely later this summer. Bordallo opposed the House-passed bill, which includes the federal cockfighting ban.

"Cockfighting is a long-standing cultural practice on Guam, even if other parts of

the country do not appreciate that. Forcing any federal ban onto the territories, without our consent or vote, is deeply offensive to me and all Americans who call U.S. territories home," said Bordallo.

"As the U.S. Senate and House negotiate a compromise 2018 Farm Bill, I will continue working to defeat any high-handed effort to impose this federal ban against our will. Congress must not dictate to the territories, while also continuing to deny us a full vote on the House floor," said Bordallo. (PR)



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

The local cockfighting arena was packed last Sunday as cockfighting enthusiasts enjoy the cockfighting derby.

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

Although cockfighting may seem grotesque to many, to those who participate in the sport, it represents family tradition and culture.

The *Saipan Tribune* was able to briefly enter the world of cockfighting last Sunday, while the local cockfighting arena hosted a cockfighting derby.

Upon stepping into the arena, you'll immediately

find dozens of cocks caged and prepared to battle to the death. Although the concept seems cruel, it is more than just provoking two animals to kill each other, according to Raynaldo Guanlao.

Guanlao is a seasoned cock

'Cockfighting is in our blood'

breeder, conditioner, and he is also seasoned in the tying of knives unto the ankles of fighting cocks which many cannot do.

"When I came here, I did not know that there was cockfighting but when I found out, I was happy that I could continue my hobby...I've been doing this since 1989...in the Philippines... It's in our blood, it's our culture especially it's been done in our family clan...me and my family we have a farm where we raise chickens for cockfighting," he said.

"We raise the chickens to fight and the owners bet. I just tie the knife to their birds and they give me like \$20... just sideline to earn money," he added.

Guanlao said that aside from tradition, it's also a

means to make extra cash for those who are barely making ends meet and its entertainment that brings different ethnic groups together.

"This is just a way for us to make some money, entertain ourselves, and it brings us together because look we have Filipinos here, locals...we're watching, and we're happy," he said.

According to Guanlao, cockfighting is also a far better way to gamble compared to the poker parlors and casino that litter the island, and cockfighting also garners revenue for the government because it is taxed.

"This is gambling but compared to poker and casino...this is fair... those are machines programmed to win. This one is just breeding your bird, conditioning your bird, then fight...For me, I prefer cockfighting because even though there is gambling, it is fair," he said.

When asked about the recent bill to ban cockfighting in the CNMI and how he felt about it as a cockfighting enthusiast, Guanlao said it would be saddening.

"For me, it would be sad because this is my culture, our sport, and we've been doing this since my great grandparents so if they stop this, for me, its very sad," he said.

When asked about animal cruelty, Guanlao said that chickens are killed regularly and eaten savagely. Cockfighting is done as an extra step before the chicken is killed and eaten.

"We eat these animals already...for the meantime we let them fight and whichever dies, we eat it," he said.

Guanlao said that winnings of the triumphant fightingcock's owner is taxed 10 percent.

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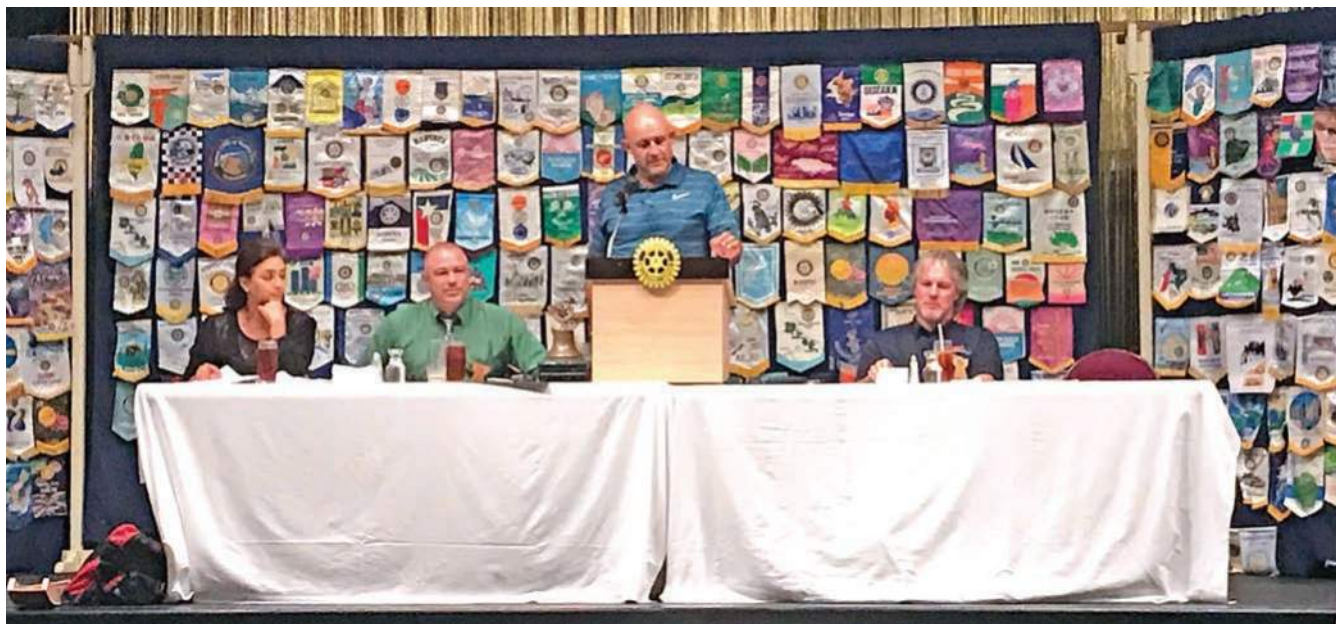
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First-ever disabilities sportsfest postponed



Public School System athletic director Nick Gross talks about the importance of the CNMI's first Disabilities Sports Festival during the Rotary Club of Saipan's weekly meeting last Tuesday.

KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI's first Disability Sports Festival that was scheduled for this weekend has been postponed until further notice due to inclement weather.

The Disabilities Sports Festival organized by the Office of the Governor was originally scheduled for this weekend starting on July 6 until July 7. The event was expected to be held at the Marianas High School.

The Sportsfest was expected to be one of the largest Sports Festivals in the CNMI with help coming from numerous groups and agencies, including massive support from the Rotary Club of Saipan.

Rotarians, in conjunction Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems Inc., was supposed to hold one of the festival games—*boccia*, a precision ball sport derived from *bocce* but for persons with disabilities who use a wheelchair.

According to a previous interview with Rotary Club president-elect Greg Borja, the club was able to secure a grant from the Rotary district to host the *boccia* tournament.

Borja added that after learning that the governor's office was planning to hold a disability sports festival, the Rotary Club decided to collaborate with the organizers and host one of the sporting events as

part of the festival.

The club will provide the equipment and manpower to officiate at the games.

During the Rotary Club's

weekly meeting last Tuesday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan, Public School System athletic director Nick Gross was asked to speak about the upcoming

festival and said that in his role as athletic director, he has constantly been looking for ways to include students with disabilities in outdoor activities

and this Sportsfest is really big for the CNMI.

Gross said that students with disabilities are capable to engage in certain activities, but they are just not given the opportunity. Gross said that this Sportsfest gives students and individuals with disabilities in general that opportunity.

The festival will offer sports

like track and field events like shot put, javelin, and long jump. The festival will also offer *bocce* and *boccia* to cater to both mobile and immobile individuals. There will also be adaptive softball and sitting/paravolleyball. Last, the festival will also offer outrigger activities and hydrotherapy for those who want to get active in the water.

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HOLDING COURT AT US DISTRICT COURT

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI Supreme Court held its appellate sessions last week at the U.S. District Court in Garapan. Shown in the photo are Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro, flanked by Associate Justice John A. Manglona, left, and Associate Justice Perry B. Inos. Court hearings have been held at alternate sites since the Guma' Hustisia's closure on March 16, 2018. CNMI Judiciary officials have been in consultations with Department of Finance Secretary Larissa Larson and Department of Public Works Secretary James A. Ada to finalize documents for advertising and bidding of mold eradication and air-conditioning projects.

Mafnas is OCO chair; NMI to host 2019 conference

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CNMI Division of Customs Director Jose Mafnas was voted as this year's chair of the Oceania Customs Organi-

zation—a 23-member group of nations in the Pacific region—during their annual conference from June 11 to 14 in Melbourne, Australia. The CNMI will be hosting the 2019 conference.

American Samoa, Australia, the Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Wallis and Futuna join the CNMI at OCO.

Mafnas said he was humbled in earning the post but also gave credit to the efforts of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Finance Secretary Larissa Larson in supporting all of their programs in the CNMI Customs.

Mafnas, who attended the conference with officer Reina Camacho, said that he was asked to do a presentation on the reforms made by his division in connection with the Customs' role in regional integration aside from the progress made in reforms made with their programs.

"I know that we have visitors that came here and saw our programs and assessed our operations, but I would also like to take note—on the many conferences that I attended—one of the issues that have been brought up from my colleagues and members is the lack of political support from their heads and leaders," Mafnas said.

"As I hear those mentioned, I said to myself that what a lucky person I am. Because without the governor's support, it will be harder and tougher for myself and the

secretary to implement the programs that we have."

He also commended the hard work Customs officers and staff had been putting in. "I applaud all Customs staff for their hard work in improving our practices, policies, and procedures that we changed to make our services more efficient. This is not mine alone, we, including the secretary and me, from top to bottom are involved to make sure our programs are successful.

Kiribati, PNG, and Vanuatu were the other members that made presentations on topics such as trade facilitation, strengthening cooperation, and information exchange on law enforcement matters, development of technical and professional capability of Customs in the Pacific, and strategies for the reform of Customs administrations.

Torres and Larson lauded Mafnas' election as OCO chair especially that the CNMI had been part and an active member of the group for the past three decades while also receiving a lot of training and support

"It's a big accomplishment for the CNMI. The OCO has provided a lot of training for our staff and has also done a lot of collaboration on issues facing our region. We're happy to have that news as he came back," added Larson.

Torres added, "Congratulations to the director for being the OCO chair. Earning that recognition is a big deal for the CNMI since it had been part of the organization for the past 30 years. Thank you also to all the employees for making sure to support the cause of our chair."



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NOTICE TO EMPLOYERS

The CNMI Department of Labor ("DOL") announces that Employers must comply with the following Employment Rules and Regulations Subchapter 80-20 of Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC).

Any violation of these Regulations may result in payment of fines, denial for Certificate of Good Standing, and other sanctions by the Department of Labor.

1. Post Job Vacancy Announcements (JVA) on DOL Website.

DOL Regulations require employers who are hiring or renewing CW-1 status workers on a full-time basis to post Job Vacancy Announcements on the website (www.marianaslabor.net). See DOL Regulations at the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code ("NMIAC") § 80-20.1-225(a).

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) requires Employers to submit evidence that the job vacancy announcement (JVA) was posted on the DOL (JVA) website.

No waiver is available with respect to the job vacancy announcement requirement. [Regs. at NMIAC § 80-20.1-225(e)].

2. File Quarterly Compliance Documents.

- Copy of Business License.
- Copy of Annual Corporate Report.
- Copy of 3 latest Quarterly Business Gross Revenue Tax (BGRT).
- Copy of 3 latest Quarterly Employer's Withholding Tax Return (EWTR).
- Total Workforce Listing.
- Workforce Development Plan.

The Workforce Plan form is available on the DOL website (www.marianaslabor.net/forms).

The objective of the Workforce Plan is to increase the percentage of U.S. citizens, U.S. permanent residents and/or CNMI permanent residents in the workforce of the employer. The plan shall include a timetable for accomplishing the replacement of nonimmigrant employees with qualified citizens, U.S. permanent residents and/or CNMI permanent residents. [Regs. at NMIAC § 80-20.1-510(a-b)]. For a description of exemptions and loss of exemptions to Workforce Plan, refer to [Regs. at NMIAC § 80-20.1-510, para (d) 1-3"].

DOL Regulations require employers to submit information on a quarterly basis regarding "the number and classification of employees for whom wages were paid during the quarter." [Regs. at NMIAC § 80-20.1-505 et seq.] The Department requires employers to submit this information in a document called the "Total Workforce Listing."

Employers are required to file a Total Workforce Listing on a quarterly basis, due on the last day of the month following the quarter:

- 1st Quarter (January–March)...due on April 30
- 2nd Quarter (April – June)...due on July 31
- 3rd Quarter (July – September)...due on October 31
- 4th Quarter (Oct. – December)...due on January 31

ATTENTION: The Total Workforce Listing for the 2nd Quarter of 2018 is due on July 31, 2018.

g) Workforce Participation – Minimum Percentage

DOL Regulations and statutes [3 CMC § 4525(a)] require all employers to maintain a full-time workforce in which a minimum of thirty percent (30%) of the full-time employees are U.S. citizens, CNMI permanent residents and/or U.S. permanent residents. [3 CMC § 4525(a) and Regs. at NMIAC § 80-20.1-210(c)(3)].

Failure to maintain a minimum percentage of 30% may result in a Notice of Violation filed against the employer.

For further information, please contact the Department of Labor at telephone number 664-3196/3190.

Man, 68, acquitted for beating up longtime friend

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

A 68-year-old man was acquitted on Tuesday on charges that he beat up his 62-year-old long-time friend and business partner at the latter's residence in Chalan Lau Lau.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho adjudged Timothy Peter Baker not guilty of assault and battery, and disturbing the peace charges.

In granting defense counsel Jose Mafnas Jr.'s motion for judgment of acquittal, Camacho found that the government has failed to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Baker committed the offenses.

Camacho said the law allows a person to defend himself from an initial aggressor, which is the essence of self-defense.

The judge determined that the alleged victim, Danilo Asuncion, initiated the fight when he "chest bumped" Baker.

He said Asuncion would have been within his rights to call the police and have Baker removed from his property.

"Because Mr. Asuncion was not in immediate danger, Mr. Asuncion did not have the right to take the law into his hands and initiate the fight," Camacho pointed out.

The judge, however, noted that he finds the testimony of

Asuncion credible.

Asuncion testified that he has known Baker for years and that both of them are business partners.

Asuncion said that on Oct. 16, 2017, Baker came to his house located behind Ink Box on Chalan Pale Arnold Road in Chalan Laulau, Saipan.

Asuncion said while discussing business matters with Baker, the discussion escalated into their shouting match with strong profanity used.

Camacho said at some point the two elderly men stood face to face, in which Asuncion

was the initial aggressor when he used his chest to bump Baker.

Camacho said Baker responded by hitting Asuncion with a plastic cup and the two started fighting.

The judge said Baker, perhaps being bigger in size, got the better of Asuncion.

Asuncion received minor injuries such as scratches and bruises to his face, neck, chest, ribs, and stomach area.

Camacho said the fight between the two ended when Asuncion grabbed a knife and told Baker to back off.

Baker backed off and Asuncion put the knife away. The fight ended.

Camacho said Asuncion had a cellphone, which could have been used to call the police before the fight happened.

Asuncion testified that he had a cell phone, which he used to call 911 after Baker's attack.

A police officer testified that he responded to the scene and observed injuries on Asuncion, but Baker had no injuries.

The officer said he then arrested Baker, who stated that

he and Asuncion were talking about their boat, and that Asuncion got angry, and an altercation ensued.

The bench trial commenced Monday.

Assistant attorney general Jonathan Wilberscheid, counsel for the government, called to the witness stand Asuncion, three police officers, a Commonwealth Health Center doctor, and an emergency medical technician.

After the last witness, Asuncion, completed his testimony, defense counsel Mafnas moved to acquit Baker.

Man gets 5 years in prison for stabbing a taxi driver

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A man, who stabbed a taxi driver with a pocketknife in As Lito apparently because he was in pain over the death of his sister, has entered a guilty plea and was slapped with a maximum five years imprisonment.

In an order issued Tuesday, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho ordered 25-year-old Michael Salesy Ilo Gioda to serve the five years in prison day for day, without the possibility of parole, probation, and early release.

Camacho gave Gioda credit for time served since Nov. 28, 2017.

Gioda shall not be eligible for parole until he has served a minimum of three years imprisonment.

If released on parole, Gioda is not allowed to have direct or indirect contact with the victim, Wei Wei Hang.

Gioda was required to pay \$1,609 in restitution to Hang. He was also ordered to pay the victim any medical expenses incurred by the victim, in relation to the injury.

Camacho said the restitution shall be reduced to a judgment lien.

After the hearing, Gioda was remanded into custody of the Department of Correction to start serving the sentence.

On Dec. 5, 2017, the Office of the Attorney General charged Gioda with aggravated assault and battery, assault with a dangerous weapon, and disturbing the peace. The charges carry a total maximum penalty of 20 years and six months of imprisonment.

Last June 28, OAG amended the information. The amended information now contains the charge of ag-

gravated assault and battery, which carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison.

Gioda signed a plea deal with the government. He pleaded guilty.

According to the factual basis of the plea deal, on Nov. 27, 2017 on Saipan, Gioda attempted to "cause serious bodily injury to Hang by using a knife to stab him."

Gioda's actions were unprompted, unlawful, and not carried out in self-defense, the plea deal states.

Assistant attorney general Robert Charles Lee appeared for the government. Assistant public defender Nancy Dominski served as counsel for Gioda.

Police Detective Daniel T. Joab stated in his report that Hang, a Chinese male, sustained two lacerations below the jaw, laceration on the left collarbone, a stab wound on the lower right chest, and minor cuts on the left ring finger.

After being treated at the Commonwealth Health Center, the victim was released.

Joab said investigation showed that at about 6:09pm last Nov. 27, the victim received a phone call from a man requesting to be picked up at the Saipan Mayor's Office along Beach Road, Chalan Laulau.

The man, who was later identified as Gioda, asked to be dropped off in San Antonio. He later told the victim to drive him instead to Hollywood Video in As Lito.

When the victim parked his car in front of Hollywood Video, Gioda began attacking him with a knife. Gioda then ran away.

Upon arrest, Gioda confessed to police that he stabbed the driver because he was feeling pain over the passing of

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Better Together

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Six gubernatorial and mayoral appointments were confirmed last week as the Senate convened in a session in the Senate Chamber on Capitol Hill.

The Senate unanimously confirmed six appointments of several commissions and boards in their June 28, 2018 session on Capitol Hill.

The Senate committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations, chaired by Sen. Francisco Cruz (R-Tinian), reported in the affirmative the reappointments of Michaela U. Sanchez to the Northern Marianas College Board of Regents representing Tinian; Marian Aldan Pierce as a member of the Marianas Visitors Authority representing Saipan; Weston Thomas Deleon Guerrero as Commonwealth

Senate confirms six appointments



Senate members prepare to go into session last Thursday at the Senate chamber on Capitol Hill.

ERWIN ENCINARES

Utilities Corp. board of directors representing Saipan; and Elaine Orilla to serve as the NMC bBoard of Regents rep-

resenting Rota.

The committee also reported on the confirmation of the appointment of Com-

monwealth Election Commission appointee Vicente T. King representing Tinian and the appointment of Vin-



ny Hocog as a member of the Commonwealth Development Authority board of directors representing Rota.

» Public hearings for several other appointments to follow

Both King and Hocog are first-time appointees to their respective boards.

The committee noted that they did not see any reason to deny all of the appointments.

During the session, Cruz further noted that the committee would continue holding public hearings for the appointments of Barry Toves to the Commonwealth Ports Authority representing Rota, Roy Reyes to the Board of Professional Licensing, Raymond Muna to the Civil Service Commission representing Saipan, and Jacinta Kaipat to the MVA board representing Saipan.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CUC-RFP-18-019

Supply and Services for Installation & Commissioning of 2 X 8-13 MW of Diesel Generating Plant System

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities to supply, install, integrate and commission (including without limitation all design, engineering, supervision, installation, testing, commissioning, training and handover) of (2) two complete new engine systems. Proposers must note that replacement of Engine No. 8 is the base proposal while the replacement of Engine No. 4 is an additive proposal. Each replacement Diesel Generating Plant shall be within a capacity range of 8 - 13 MW which must be supplied, installed, tested, and commissioned as an integrated system at CUC Power Plant No. 1, Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The solicitation seeks proposals from a legally recognized business entity authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, which has as one or more of its equity owners (principals) a qualified ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURER (OEM), from which CUC intends to contract with to purchase one, and perhaps two, fully installed and commissioned turn-key engine systems that best fit CUC's power supply requirements. The Proposer must be authorized as OEM's agent to bind OEM to contractual terms including issuance of OEM's equipment warranty and certifying the installation of the works anticipated under this RFP meet OEM specifications, the Proposal, and meet or exceed all warranty requirements.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$500.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and plans for the project, will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan on **July 18, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to the Power Plant facility will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-RFP-18-019 - Supply and Services for Installation & Commissioning of 2 X 8-13 MW of Diesel Generating Plant System"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than August 23, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A *Proposal Guarantee* equal to fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposed price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Discussions may be conducted with responsible Proposers who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing Proposers.

All Proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility for any act of omission on the part of the Proposer due in whole or in part to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under any anticipated contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Proposers are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable

Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including without limitation any and all excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page:

<https://marianaslabor.net/>. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.



This RFP solicits services regulated by the Commonwealth's Board of Professional Licensing (BPL). All bidders shall possess Certificate of Authority from the BPL as contemplated in and required by NMIA ss 125-20.1-501 which provides in part that any corporation or partnership "Firm," whether organized under the Law of the CNMI or other jurisdiction, hereafter offering to engage or engaging in the practice of engineering, architecture, land surveying, or landscape architecture in the Commonwealth must have a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) issued by the Board. All firms must have a valid Certificate of Authorization before advertising to offer or offer professional engineering, architectural, land surveying, or landscape architectural services in the CNMI. All bids submitted shall be accompanied by a certificate of authority in the name of the OEM submitting the bid.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 23, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Christopher Timmons, Assistant Attorney General, via email address christopher_timmons@cnmioag.org and Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
Acting, Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLÁN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 • Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 664-4282 • Fax: 235-5131

WATER QUALITY REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

Your 2017 CUC Water Quality Report is now available on-line! This year, we have a separate report for each island: Rota, Saipan, and Tinian. These reports contain important information about the source and quality of your drinking water.

Please open the following web sites to view what contaminants were detected in your water during 2017 and to learn more about your drinking water.

For Rota, go to <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Rota.pdf>

For Saipan, go to <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Saipan.pdf>

For Tinian, go to <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Tinian.pdf>

If you need the report translated, wish to speak with someone about the report, or would like a paper copy delivered or emailed to you, please call CUC at (670) 664-4282.

RA AYOORA REPOODIL AMMWELIL SCHAAL

Repoodil yóómw 2017 CUC Ammwelil Schaal aa yoor online! Ráágh yeel, ai ayoora repoodngáli falúw kka: Luuta, Seipél, me Tchiliyól. E lo llól repood kkal arongorong ikka e impotanti reel milikka e toowow me ammwelil schaal iye ów ghal úlúmi.

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Ngáli Luuta, mweteló reel <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Rota.pdf>

Ngáli Seipél, mweteló reel <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Saipan.pdf>

Ngáli Tchiliyól, mweteló reel <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Tinian.pdf>

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RIPOT KUÁLIDÁT HĀNOM ESTA MANAGUAHA

Iyon-mu 2017 (Dos Mit Diesi Sietti) na Ripot nu i Kuálidát Hānom i CUC managuahayi pá'gu giya on-line! Pá'gu na sákkán, in na'guahayi siparāo na ripot para kada' isla: Luta, Saipan, yan Tinian. Esti na ripot siha masaguaniniyi impottānti na infotmasion put i tutuhonña yan kuálidát put i Hānom ni un gigimin.

Put fabot baba i tinattiyi na web sites para un atan hāfa siha mankutchinu ni masodda' gi hālum i hānom-mu gi durāntin 2017 (Dos Mit Diesi Sietti) na sákkán para un ke'tungu' mās put i hānom ni un gigimin.

Para Luta, hānao para <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Rota.pdf>

Para Saipan, hānao para <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Saipan.pdf>

Para Tinian, hānao para <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Tinian.pdf>

Kumu n nisisita i ripot para u matransláda, ya malagu' hāo kumuentusi hāyi put i ripot pat malagu' hāo kopian páppit u ma'entrega pat ma-email guatu para hāgu, put fabot hāgan i CUC gi (670) 664-4282.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Witnesses host convention

The public is invited to attend a free annual event being hosted by Jehovah’s Witnesses on the weekend of July 13-15 at their Kingdom Hall in Gualo Rai. With the theme “Be Courageous!” this year’s convention will focus on practical ways to enjoy a happy life now and have a real hope for the future.

Among the convention’s 54 presentations will be Bible-based talks, audio dramas, interviews and short videos. A multimedia presentation will demonstrate what real people—and even five animals—can teach us about courage.

A Sunday morning public discourse will explain why Jesus told a grieving father: “Have no fear.” (Mark 5:36) And those in attendance Sunday Afternoon will see Jonah get Swallowed by a fish in the feature film: “The Story of Jonah—A Lesson in Courage and Mercy.”

Sessions begin each day at 9:20am. Admission is free and collections will not be taken.

For more information, visit the website: [jw.org](#). (PR)

Survivors & caregivers support meeting on July 11

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Com-

monwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting scheduled for Wednesday, July 11, 5:30pm at Hyatt Regency Saipan’s Chamolinian Room.

To RSVP or for more information, please call the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. (PR)

MHS student orientations set

Marianas High School will be conducting their school year 2018-2019 student orientations:

■ Aug. 9, 9am-12pm: Incoming freshmen and new transfer students; school gym

■ Aug. 10, 9am-12pm: Sophomores; school gym

■ Aug. 13, 9am-12pm: Juniors; school gym

■ Aug. 14, 9am-12pm: Seniors; school gym

MHS students can now register for their courses by visiting our school website at marianashighschool.com or logging in directly to <https://goo.gl/forms/bJKezkcxaGos9WVx2>. (PR)

Intro to Spanish Class at JKPL

During the month of July, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will be hosting a free Intro to Spanish for Teens and Adults.

The dates for the classes are Friday, July 6, Wednesday, July 11, and Wednesday, July 18.

The classes will be held from 4pm to 5pm. Because it is a basic Spanish class, participants will learn topics like the alphabet, counting, basic phrases, and more. This class is part of the Teen and Adult Summer Library Institute, so attending all four classes will count toward the reading log. To sign up for the class, please visit the library and ask for Emily. Questions? Call the library at 235-READ.

For the latest news and events, please visit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library’s website at www.cnmlib.org and like and/or follow JKPL’s Facebook page, @joeten_kiyu. Please call the library at 670-235-7322/23 for questions/concerns. The library’s summer hours are as follows (effective June 12-Aug. 4): Tuesday-Friday, 9am-5:30pm, Saturday, 9am 4pm, and closed Sundays, Mondays, and holidays. (PR)

Torres and Babauta forum on Marianas Agupa Chamorro talkshow

This coming Saturday, July 7, 20018 at 10am, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and former governor Juan N. Babauta will appear together on *Marianas Agupa Chamorro* talkshow.

According to Glenn H. Manglona, host of *Marianas Agupa* talkshow, “the purpose of this forum is to find out from each of our gubernatorial candidate

where do they stand on the most pressing issue affecting our people today. The five areas that will be asked are public health, economy, education, utility, and transportation.

Manglona said, “The invitation letter was sent out last week to both of our gubernatorial candidates and we hope that they will show up for this important forum. Our listening audience are anxious to listen to our 2018 gubernatorial hopeful. So get your coffee and donuts ready for the show. The show will be broadcast live on Magic 100.3 FM and will be streamed on the internet and via Facebook.” (PR)

Writer’s Workshop comes to Tinian on July 13

The Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, the Tinian Public Library, Tinian Mayor’s Office, and author Walt F.J. Goodridge will present the author’s

popular Writer’s Workshop on Friday, July 13, 2018 from 1pm to 4pm, free of charge at the library on the island of Tinian.

This event requires at least 15 pre-registered participants in order to take place. Sign up by visiting the library on Tinian, or by calling Julie Sablan during Tinian library hours (Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm) at 670 433-0504. (Rota residents may express their interest for a Rota workshop at this same number)

To register, visit the front desk of the Tinian Library or call Julie Sablan during Tinian Library hours (Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm) at 433-0504. For more information or to learn more about Goodridge, and to see some success stories from past workshops on Saipan, visit www.saipanwriters.com. (PR)


CUC: FAC remains same for July

The Commonwealth Utilities

Corp. had announced that the Fuel Adjustment Charge remains at \$0.22317 per kWh for the month of July.

Although there has been a slight decrease in the Mean of Platts Singapore monthly pricing from June to July as notified by Mobil Oil Mariana Islands, Inc., the decrease did not equal or exceed a 4.5 percent differential of the average per gallon cost of fuel. Accordingly, there will be no adjustment made to the overall CUC kWh rate for the month of July.

CUC is required, pursuant to an order previously issued by the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission, to adjust (up or down) the FAC pass-through rate when the MOPS monthly pricing equals or exceeds a 4.5 percent differential of the average per gallon cost of fuel used the calculation of the current FAC rate. (PR)



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY(CPA)
CNMI GOVERNMENT

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 • Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@ptic.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the Perimeter Security Fence Replacement at the Thomas Camacho Mendiola Commercial Seaport, Rota, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, Project AIP No. CPA-RS-002-15.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: “Thomas Camacho Mendiola Commercial Seaport Perimeter Security Fence Replacement, Rota, CNMI, Project No. CPA-RS-002-15” and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, JULY 6, 2018**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read at the Saipan Airport Conference Room immediately after 2:00 p.m. on the same day..

The Project, in general, consists of, but is not limited to complete removal of fencing and concrete post footings and installation of new fence and concrete footings, all in accordance with the Project Drawings and Specifications.

The Project is being financed by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project in its entirety shall be **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY (150) Calendar Days**. Liquidated damages in the amount of **THREE HUNDRED (\$300.00) Dollars** shall be assessed the Contractor for each calendar day that the completion of the Project is delayed beyond beyond the contract completion date without approved excuse.

The apparent low bidder will be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are “responsive and responsible.” This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be “responsive or responsible”, their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

A CD-ROM containing the Bid Proposal and Contract Documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of plans and documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. The payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier’s check or U.S. postal money order payable to the “Commonwealth Ports Authority”.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Rota Ports Manager’s Office, Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport, at **10:00 AM, FRIDAY, JUNE 29, 2018**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. A site visit will be followed by the pre-bid conference.

Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the bid opening date.

Each bid proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders shall use the bid schedule form available on the CD. Each bidder must also supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter of the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA’s best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by a U.S. Treasury listed surety or CPA approved company, a certified check, or a cashier’s check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority. All bidders shall comply with all U.S. and CNMI laws pertaining to construction.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director



PACIFIC CHANG HONG CORPORATION
CHANGHONG AIR CONITIONER
AND REFRIGERATOR
GENERAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR

P.O.BOX505201, SAIPAN MP96950
Tel: (670) 288-1593 483-1593
E-mail:pacificchanghongac@gmail.com

	REGULAR PRICE	LIBERATION DAY PRICE
Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C 9,000BTU 115V-220V 60Hz SEER 13.0 FREON R410	\$558	\$448
Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C 12,000BTU 115V-220V 60Hz SEER 13.0 FREON R410	\$608	\$498
Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C 18,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 13.0 FREON R410	\$848	\$748
Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C 24,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 13.0 FREON R410	\$948	\$848
Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C 30,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 13.0 FREON R410	\$1,198	\$1,098
Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C 36,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 13.0 FREON R410	\$1,698	\$1,598
Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C 48,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 13.0 FREON R410	\$2,498	\$2,398
Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C 9,000BTU 115V-220V 60Hz SEER 20.5 FREON R410	\$698	\$598
Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C 12,000BTU 115V-220V 60Hz SEER 18.4 FREON R410	\$798	\$698
Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C 18,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 18.3 FREON R410	\$1,198	\$998
Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C 24,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 20.9 FREON R410	\$1,598	\$1,398
Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C 30,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 18.8 FREON R410	\$1,798	\$1,598
Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C 36,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 17.3 FREON R411	\$1,998	\$1,798
Lin's Air Brand New Energy Window Type A/C 5,000BTU 115V 60Hz FREON R 410A	\$248	\$198
Lin's Air Brand New Energy WINDOW Type A/C 8,000BTU 115V 60Hz FREON R 410A	\$348	\$298
Lin's Air Brand New Energy WINDOW Type A/C 12,000BTU 115V 60Hz FREON R 410A	\$348	\$398
4.5 CU. FT REFRIGERATOR 115v 60HZ	\$380	\$298
7.1 CU. FT REFRIGERATOR 115v 60HZ	\$488	\$398
9.9 CU. FT REFRIGERATOR 115v 60HZ	\$698	\$598
17.0 CU. FT REFRIGERATOR 115v 60HZ	\$898	\$798
18.0 CU. FT REFRIGERATOR 115v 60HZ	\$928	\$828
13.8 CU. FT UPRIGHT FREEZER 115v 60HZ	\$898	\$798
7KG WASHING MACHINE 115V-60HZ 115v 60HZ	\$499	\$398
12KG WASHING MACHING 115V-60HZ 115v 60HZ	\$599	\$498

A/C INCLUDES:
1. Two years warranty from purchase date.
(PARTS AND LABOR - SPLIT TYPE AIRCON)
2. One Year Warranty from date (Parts & Labor) Window Type, Refrigerator / Washing Machine
3. Free basic installation. (15Ft of co tubing & electrical)
4. Free wall bracket.
5. FREE REMOTE CONTROLLER REPLACEMENT (IF BROKEN)
6. NO Cleaning servicing included

EXCLUSION:
1. Need power supply/ drop line for each A/C unit. (BEFORE A/C INSTALLATION)
2. Disconnect box / elect breaker. Not included.
3. Concrete slab for out-door unit (if needed) not included.
NOTE/REM: OVER BASIC INSTALLATION LABOR & MATERIAL (S) IS NOT INCLUDED IN THIS QUOTE.

ROBERT TENORIO TORRES, F0197
ATTORNEY AT LAW
PLATA DRIVE, WHISPERING PALMS (CHALAN KIYA)
P.O. BOX 503758 CK
SAIPAN, MP 96950
TELEPHONE: (670) 234-7859
FACSIMILE: (670) 234-5749

CIVILLE & TANG, PLLC
SIRENA PEREZ CASSIDY, F0338
330 HERNAN CORTEZ AVENUE, SUITE 200
HAGATNA, GUAM 96910
TELEPHONE: (671) 472-8869/69
FACSIMILE: (671) 477-2511

Attorney for Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**



ANZ GUAM, INC., formerly
known as **CITIZENS
SECURITY
BANKS (GUAM), INC.,**
Plaintiff,

vs.
**JESUS T. LIZAMA dba
VICTORIA HOTEL, J&JEV
ENTERPRISES,
INC.,** and the
BANK OF GUAM,
Defendants.

**Civil Action No.
00-0296 D
(THIRD AMENDED)
NOTICE OF
AUCTION AND
JUDICIAL SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of the Amended Judgment made and entered in the above titled action on 30th day of January, 2001, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due to Plaintiff ANZ GUAM, INC., formerly known as CITIZENS SECURITY BANK (GUAM), INC. ("ANZ"), in the above titled action from Defendants JESUS T. LIZAMA DBA VICTORIA HOTEL AND J&JEV ENTERPRISES, INC., as prescribed in the Order Directing Foreclosure Sale of Mortgaged Property filed on February 13, 2013, pursuant to 7 CMC § 4537(e) the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **20th day of July, 2018 at 10 a.m.**, at Victoria Hotel, located on Micro Beach Rd, Garapan, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:
PARCELS 1 & 2:
a. LOT 001 D 13, (formerly known as Block 3, Lot 1), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 D 00, the original of which was registered 30 SEP 70 as Document No. 512 at Land Registry, Saipan.
b. LOT 001 D 14, (formerly known as Block 3, Lot 2), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 D 00, the original of which was registered 30 SEP 70 as Document No. 512 at Land Registry, Saipan.
And immediately thereafter, the sale of the following parcel of property:
PARCEL 3:
c. TRACT 21732-9, part of original Tract 21732-R1, AH 140), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2085/84, the original of which was recorded 08 AUG 84 as Document No. 84-1439 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.
Terms and Conditions of Sale.
1. **Rights and duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
a. Withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
b. To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
c. To reject any and all bids.
2. **Bids.** All the property listed in this notice shall be sold to the highest bidder at a public auction, without any warranty being given, express or implied, with respect to the title, possession, and encumbrances, to satisfy the amount due to Plaintiff ANZ GUAM, INC. on the date of the sale under the Amended Judgment as prescribed in the Order Directing Foreclosure Sale of Mortgaged Property. ANZ GUAM, INC. reserves the right to bid all or part of the amount due at the time of the sale.
3. **Payment.** A deposit of twenty percent (20%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale by the successful bidder. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 20% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to the Plaintiff, ANZ GUAM, INC., formerly known as CITIZENS SECURITY BANK (GUAM), INC.
4. **Inspection.** Interested bidders may inspect the property at the following times:
Parcels 1 & 2: June 22, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.
Parcel 3: June 29, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.
5. **Change of Terms.** ANZ GUAM, INC., reserves the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
6. **No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.
DATED this 12th day of June, 2018.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-18-018

ISLAND WIDE WATERLINE REPAIRS, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Island Wide Waterline Repairs, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of excavation to verify leaks and leak repair on various types of waterlines. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC. The duration of the contract is one year (365 calendar days) from date of award with an option to extend for an additional year if exercised by CUC.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **July 3, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Six (6) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **“CUC-IFB-18-018: Island Wide Waterline Repairs, Saipan”** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 19, 2018**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidder. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.



Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 5, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Ms. Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Support Assistant – via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Procurement & Supply

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-18-024

**REMOVAL AND RELOCATION OF
ENGINE # 8 AND # 4 FRAME, BLOCK & ALTERNATOR PARTS AT POWER PLANT
NO.1, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN**

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified and experienced firms for the removal and relocation of Engine 8 and Engine No. 4 frame, block & alternator parts at Power Plant No.1, Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. In addition they will also be required to remove the coils from the stators and store them in a designated place. Both engines have been partially dismantled by the CUC plant personnel.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **180 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration.

As this is a re-bid, a Pre-Bid Conference is not considered necessary; CUC will allow Site Visit based on pre-scheduled arrangements with CUC through email. Prospective Bidders who had not participated in the previous bid (CUC-IFB-18-020) are encouraged to visit the site for familiarizing the site conditions.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **“CUC-IFB-18-024: Removal and relocation of engines 8 and 4 at Power Plant No. 1”**, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 27, 2018**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 90 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are however expected to have experience and the required skill sets in similar work.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered Prospective Bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 16, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Venugopal Prabhakara, CUC Project Manager – via email venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Assistant-via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
Acting, Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Health info session for Yap-bound CNMI delegation



JON PEREZ

The Division of Public Health and Services, the Public Health Emergency Preparedness, and Epidemiology Laboratory Capacity will advise Team CNMI on health issues before Yap's Micronesian Games.

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Health-care Corp. will be holding a health information session for the CNMI delegation that will compete in the 9th Micronesian Games in Yap, the Federated States of Micronesia. The quadrennial Games kicks off on July 15.

The Division of Public Health Services and the Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Epidemiology Laboratory Capacity programs would host the session from 9am to 10am at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium inside the Oleai Sports Complex.

Mosquito disease preven-

tion, vaccinations, food safety, reducing exposure to germs, and smart packing are the topics to be covered in the hour-long information session.

DPHS has advised the CNMI delegation—athletes, coaches, officials, and family members—to get vaccinated in order to be protected of the MMR (mumps, measles, rubella) virus. Children should get two doses of the MMR vaccine, first at 12 months and the second dose when they turn four years old. Yap's Department of Health Services has recently released a mumps alert advisory in May, a few months before the opening of the Micro Games, after the island experienced an outbreak of the said virus.

A third dose of the MMR vaccine was on the guidelines released by the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention for any child or adult—even if they had already taken two doses of the vaccine—that is considered a high risk during an outbreak. CDC's travel advisory states that children 12 months or older, teenagers, and adults should have already had two doses of the MMR vaccine before traveling to an area that had a mumps outbreak. The vaccine should have been taken in between 28 days.

“Children 6 to 11 months of age traveling should get an MMR vaccine before departure then revaccinate with two more doses, one at 12 to 15 months and second four weeks later,” said a CHCC advisory.

For more information on the health session, call Keanna Villagomez at 234-8950 ext. 2018, while for the immunization program, call 236-8745 or 236-8709, 81 or 83.

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Attorney for Plaintiff

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

Bank of Guam,)
Plaintiff,)
)
vs.)
)
)
Joaquin M. Castro,)
Defendant)

**CIVIL ACTION
NO.: 15-0085T**

**NOTICE OF HEARING
ON PLAINTIFF'S
MOTION FOR
DEFAULT JUDGMENT**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on July 20, 2018, at 9:00 am, a hearing will be held before Judge Govendo on Plaintiff's Motion for Default Judgment in the above-captioned matter, at the Superior Court for the CNMI, *Guma Hustisia*, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 27th day of June, 2018.

/s/ Clerk of Court/
Deputy Clerk

INTERNATIONAL CORAL REEF INITIATIVE AND UN ENVIRONMENT
TOGETHER WITH **THE OCEAN AGENCY**

AND
THE TIFFANY & CO. FOUNDATION AND GOOGLE

INCLUDING

DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT -
CNMI CORAL REEF INITIATIVE

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

In this era of mass shootings, we need mass research into how to stop the violence

Last week, it was a newsroom in Annapolis, Md. About a month ago, it was Santa Fe High School in Texas. And in February, it was a high school in Parkland, Fla. Regardless of our politics, there couldn't be any stronger warning sign that something is going wrong in our country than the prevalence of mass shootings.

So we were more than a little encouraged recently when folks from the Texas-based Laura and John Arnold Foundation stopped by our offices to talk about an initiative they've launched to do something about this problem.

There are a lot of people who call for something to be done, but what stands out about the Arnold Foundation's work is that it attempts to bridge the political divide that stymies discussion. The foundation focuses on taking the first crucial step of gathering information before offering policy prescriptions.

Here is what the Arnold Foundation is doing: Over the next five years, it has pledged to spend \$20 million on research into gun violence, and efforts to encourage others to engage in such research. In the short run, the foundation hopes to raise an additional \$30 million in private funds. And the foundation is also collaborating with the Rand Corp. to collect and analyze empirical evidence needed to ascertain what could make a meaningful difference.

In the long run, the foundation's goal is more ambitious. It hopes to spark a massive — private and government — research effort. The ultimate aim, of course, is to draw the federal government into the research effort. That would provide substantial dollars as well as pull in talented researchers from across the country.

If this sounds like so many previous efforts, it's not. In this case, the Arnold Foundation is reaching out to organizations that support gun rights — including the National Rifle Association — and is starting from the premise that the Second Amendment protects gun ownership in America. Those working on this initiative hope that the Heller decision, in which the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the individual right to own guns, can be used to change the national narrative so gun enthusiasts can feel empowered to work with others to find new ways to reduce gun violence.

Even though the intention of this initiative is to find ideas that can reduce violence — not simply offer a litany of the same old gun-control proposals — we recognize that this will be a heavy lift. There is substantial opposition to using federal dollars for such research out of fear that it would be used to advocate for a one-sided political agenda.

There may be no way to allay such fears, other than to conduct research that demonstrates there are many ways to save lives without violating individual rights. And to that end, we're encouraged to see the Arnold Foundation's efforts and look forward to seeing the fruits of this initiative.

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Monument for Kilili

Though we've reached 40 years of self-government without pomp and circumstance, it is fitting to honor pioneers who took the leadership role that started our long journey home since days of yore.

The one person who deserves such accolade is the elder Gregorio Sablan (Kilili) who was entrusted the role of the first civilian government here after the war. Though he died while in office he was highly revered as a charismatic wise man of the village. He was the first to carry the torch of leadership in the birth and embryonic growth of "We the people."

I'm sure his vision included our taking charge of our affairs. After all, our ancestors have survived the failed agenda of four colonial powers. It proves that we can handle our affairs with a sense of vision, humility, conviction, and commitment.

Definitely, he deserves a larger than life-size monument that should be placed prominently at American Memorial Park. He is the historic icon of self-government here! It's time that we begin recognizing indigenous icons that laid the groundwork for self-rule.

Season: Every two to four years in November we march to polling places basically to elect the next set of policymakers. It's a group we think is capable of planning the future of these isles through policies. It includes economics, fiscal management and future investments.

In doing so, it's good to assess what are the issues so you could ably size it up against every candidate and his/her ability to tackle them through to completion. Either that or you could skip their names.

We ask the most basic question: are candidates equipped with credentials relevant to these issues so there's initial clarity of understanding as they prepare to get to work? Or is the lack of it a serious setback from the outset making the task a guessing game?

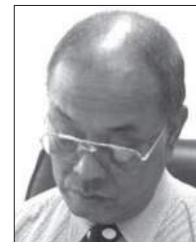
Protracted our accomplishing strong governance, such is the fallacy of a democracy that takes years of refinement. It's all in the palm of our hands!

Economy: What is it and is it a concept fully understood with all its complexities? Or is the usual contentment with what we have now the accepted modus operandi? Is it an informed position? Is there a plan in place now?

Is fiscal management a forte? If the answer is in the affirmative didn't Da Boys just raised their income by 80 percent doubled down by increasing cabinet and deputies' salaries by 56 percent? Simultaneously, there's a projection of CHC crashing into budgetary shortfall by some \$13 million? Isn't this a vital issue of concern for people at the helm? How did you miss fidu-

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



ciary duty on this score?

Retirement: Speaker Ralph Demapan tries to revive the retirement system a difficult undertaking given that the source of fund turns heavily suspect. It simply asks: who pays for current retirees' paycheck? It's the current government employees! It's basically a Ponzi scheme. Isn't there the benefit of recent history to review here?

It means that in order for the 3,000 some retirees to receive their paychecks we have to have an excess number of government employees to meet this payroll. But what happens if revenue goes Deep South and can't pay for that many public sector employees? The dire consequence would ricochet and slam retirees' pay, right?

Not sure how much the local government pays into this program (and I'm sure it's in the millions of dollars, annually) and is it an amount it could afford and for how long? Hell, even U.S. Social Security is projected to go bankrupt by 2030 that could end money for recipients including this son of metformin. Has anyone seriously taken critical ocular review into the fiscal viability of the local retirement program?

What If... Kilili raised a fiscally responsible query: what if casino dries up? Or can the island even compete with Japan and nearby Asian countries equipped with the same economic venture? These countries are also ensuring their rich players stay home. Smart.

How do we compete with Japan that has some 26 million multi-millionaires? How many millionaires are here? Would they waste their lifetime earnings in a game of chance? Or isn't it best spent in the education of their children and grandchildren?

Economically, our eyesight is set no further than the nose of a fruit fly. We play second fiddle to whatever descends and we subsequently wrap in indigenous contentment. Ever wonder why the lack of entrepreneurial culture? Is there a reasonable substitute for it in the event the economic scaffold crumbles?

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

‘What did you said?’

The outside world is often dismissive of Saipan’s pipsqueak status, but it actually serves as a tight focal point for some factors in international commerce. For example, you can easily hear six or seven languages spoken through the course of an average day. As a backdrop to this scene, the business sector, including, of course, tourism, has a lot of written materials flowing across languages.

Just about anyone who is above ground and drawing air will eventually get roped into some stage of a small-scale translation project. Could be you. Could be me. Could be that guy under a tree who is smoking a cigarette.

These things usually go in two steps. The actual translation

is usually performed by a native speaker of the original language, someone (in fact, anyone) around the office who has some sort of familiarity with the target language. After this step, a native speaker of the target language is used to tweak the style and grammar. If you happen to be within eyeshot when they’re looking around for that native speaker, you’re about to get drafted.

I’ve managed to avoid several of these missions lately, but I feigned being helpful by offering a few observations. I’ll arm you with these in case you can use them to your advantage.

But first, I’ll note that my context is the basic grunt work of standard business communications. Something like advertising copy, by contrast, is far more demanding.

Now that we’ve taken care of that little matter, we can proceed. One issue that has come up a few times recently is the distinction between British English and American English. Does it matter which flavor is used? No, I can’t see that it matters either way, but the ideal approach, for any given document, is to remain consistent instead of using a haphazard mix of the two flavors. But even if things are mixed up it’s not that big of a deal.

The true gotcha’ on this stuff is often units of measurement. They can hew to different conventions.

For example, if a foreign source tells a chemist in middle America that the temperature in Taipei is 28 degrees, the chemist will probably know to pack warm-weather duds for an upcoming trip. But if you tell the average tourist in middle America that same number, you might see somebody arriving in a jacket and mittens.

Meanwhile, as for general grammar, my notion is that function trumps form. At the level of international commerce, most people, most of the time, just need to get the point across at some basically acceptable level. This is second nature in Saipan, where budgets are usually very tight and there’s not much money for spinning gilded words.

If I had to cough up a grammar checklist, I’d keep it as short as possible by noting just four pitfalls. All four are common words that look nearly alike, but that aren’t really interchangeable. They are:

By ED STEPHENS JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com.

His column runs every Friday.



- 1) “it’s” vs. “its”
- 2) “you’re” vs. “your”
- 3) “to” vs. “too”
- 4) “their” vs. “there” vs. “they’re”

Of course, English has a long list of confusingly similar words (here, hear; waist, waste; discrete, discreet; stationary, stationery; compliment, complement; principle, principal; desert, dessert; etc.), so there are plenty of details to heed if you want to.

One thing that drives people bonkers about English is the wacky grammar pertaining to verbs. Fortunately, even if a verb strays far from the confines of textbook grammar, the meaning will usually survive unscathed. I’d say half the correspondence I get has messed-up verbs. Charmingly enough, the misuse is usually a more logical construction than the “correct” use would be. For all their superficial complexity, English verbs are actually tough and hardy players. If you can just manage to push them out the door, even in rough form, they’ll be able to fend for themselves in the wild.

A foreign office clerk one asked me, “What did you said?” This construction struck me as elegant and logical. I decided to swipe it for my own use. It has since propagated through my social circles. Some day it will come full circle and I’ll encounter it in the wild again.

Anyway, stepping back to the broad view of things, I’ll play the optimist and note that even “imperfect” language can be a side effect of dynamicism. This is the nature of international crossroads, where language is an expedient for cooperation and for getting things done.

COHEN KOANS UNKNOWN WITNESS and WITLESS**LITERARY NOOK**

By JOEY ‘PEPE BATBON’ CONNOLLY

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Joey “Pepe Batbon” Connolly is a retired teacher and poet living on Tinian who taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.

A blind man had been given a lantern to walk home after visiting his friend, he said he didn’t need it but his friend said someone will run into you. Shortly after starting towards home someone ran into him. The blind man said can’t you see the lantern, the stranger said, “Your candle has burned out brother.” —*Zen Koan, possibly Chinese origin.*

MICHAEL COHEN—WHAT IS KNOWN UNKNOWN KOAN

(Is he blind to his predicament? has his candle finally burned out?)

The ‘lying media’ reports Michael Cohen may start *flipping that is what all TV news reporters but Fox are quipping newspapers are read news show hosts do lots of lippping on every salacious news tidbit their mouth is tripping the public drinks the dirt lawyers on both sides just sipping Tom Arnold says with Cohen this weekend he’s kipping perhaps Tom Arnold has been too much booze nipping Cohen’s mad Trump won’t pay lawyers says he’s gypping so perhaps its Special Counsel prosecutors Cohen is hippping everyone wants tapes, pictures or movies with no blipping will Michael Cohen give his old boss a well deserved ripping as into payoffs to other women and crooked deals he’s dipping somehow all the dirty laundry news about his boss is slipping out. Where are tapes of Stormy Daniels spanking and whipping

‘flipping’ as used here means telling the other side of a story one has been telling, revealing negative information on a former positive spin the speaker has been involved with.

WITNESS HALFWITS DIMWITS NITWITS WITLESS

Halfwit Cohen money made with taxi cabs and real estate fixer for 45 hired costly lawyers seemed rather foolish beloved boss turned on him slowly and started to berate Cohen’s ‘I’ll take a bullet for him’ sounds grade schoolish Dimwit Betsy Devos millionaire placed in charge of education comes across as being inarticulate and scatterbrained totally unfamiliar with the US public school situation makes money on charter schools position easily explained Nitwit cabinet and staff filled with people in over their heads the Generals seem capable of keeping things afloat Russian spies dream of sleeping in Trump’s hotel beds 45 suffers from junk food indigestion and belly bloat All these folks seem quite destitute of wit and understanding Pawns who stand and witness the King of Debt commanding

Asian-Americans, Harvard and the future

Everybody knows how President Donald Trump asked for a Muslim ban in his campaign and at least some of us know his travel ban was no such thing. This country did, however, once have a Chinese ban — people didn’t want them around for mostly bigoted reasons. Thank heavens the population of Asian-Americans from some 20 countries is now booming despite some lingering inhospitality.

We have to watch the generalities — Asian-Americans are a diverse group and what counts ultimately is individuals — but here is a gift that keeps on giving. As the Pew Research Center reports, no racial group in America can match them in income or education, and they embrace hard work, are big on marriage and family and really, really like it here.

Their overall median income is \$73,000, something like \$20,000 above the national median income although one Asian segment, Indians, makes that seem picayunish. Their median is \$100,000. But why dwell on money?

One reason is that minority immigrants seldom have ease of passage, as is illustrated by the 19th century Chinese ban that lasted until the 1940s. The fastest growing racial group in America, now about 5.6 percent of the population, Asian-Americans are largely blessed with a culture and values helping to overcome difficulties, yanking the most out of tough circumstances. And besides income, consider how they also excel in school to the extent that half have college educations while less than a third of all Americans do.

At Harvard, widely considered the top of the top universities, Asian-Americans knock on the door with academic achievements higher than any other racial or ethnic competitors. Text scores? No. 1. High school grades? No. 1. Extracurricular activities? No. 1.

The New York Times, which tells us all of this, also tells us that if admissions were based on such matters alone, these exemplars of matters of the mind would constitute 43 percent of the student body. Instead, they are somewhere around 19 or 20 percent and have been for a long time.

How come? The answer is discrimination. Students for Fair Admissions says in a lawsuit that contends that the university balances out racial groups in prearranged percentages that negate

By JAY AMBROSE

Tribune News Service

Jay Ambrose is an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service. Readers may email him at speaktojay@aol.com.



actual qualifications. Stereotypes are at work here, much as in the quota system limiting the number of Jewish students in the 1930s, the plaintiff alleges. The Harvard position is that there are other criteria of character and the like and that the selection system is fair and commendable.

I would agree that it can be worthy to examine nonacademic aspects of who a student is, but then you have the interesting fact that the university itself once explored whether there was a bias toward Asian-Americans and concluded there was. That was about all we know — no reforms or apologies emerged — and meanwhile we are also aware the university is particularly tough on Asian-Americans in assessing what they are like personally.






Not so hot, would be one way of summing it up.

My limited contact with Asian-Americans has been with a few acute professionals and entrepreneurial souls who have started businesses and are conscientious and honest while doing a good job. Such anecdotal evidence, even with statistical backing, hardly frees any broad statement of annoying exceptions. But with no intended disparagement of any other of our amazing groups, I will nevertheless argue there is a reinvigorating quality about many Asian-Americans portending large benefits for our American future.

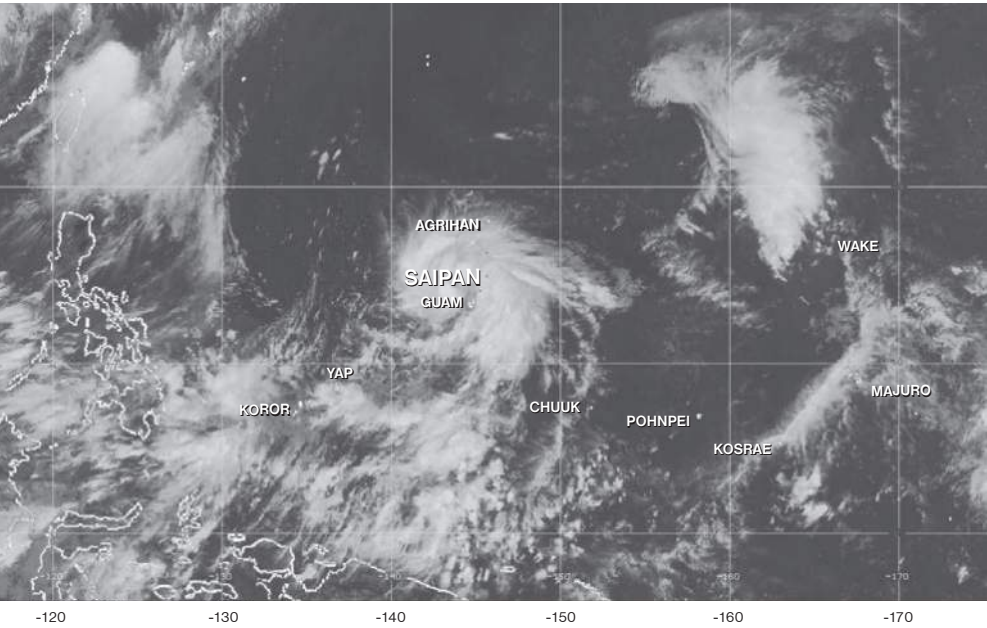
Of course there is this about some of our ideologically instructed academic and other leaders: They betray principles fallaciously supposing they thus serve a higher good. Are you aware that the Supreme Court, in affirming affirmative action, did so with reference to a law forbidding racial preferences? Someday, however, I am guessing there will be an Asian-American president of Harvard whose talent, grit and character carried the day.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
Breezy. Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲85° ▼78°	▲85° ▼78°	▲86° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:10 AM, THURSDAY, JULY 5, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm Maria continues to affect the Marianas this morning. The system has moved just west of northern Guam. Showers with heavy rain and gusty winds are expected to continue through the day, with tropical storm force winds likely for Guam and Rota into the afternoon. Tropical storm conditions remain a possibility for Tinian and Saipan, depending on when Maria turns more toward the north. As Maria continues to move toward the northwest, showers and thunderstorms are expected to continue through the next Friday before the marianas return to a quiet, drier pattern.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°	
Palau	Thunderstorm	85° / 77°	
Yap	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	86° / 78°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorm	87° / 76°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	87° / 76°	
Majuro	Thunderstorm	86° / 80°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Cloudy	59° / 54°	
Beijing	Thunderstorm	81° / 70°	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	90° / 82°	
Honolulu	Showers	86° / 75°	
London	Partly Cloudy	82° / 63°	
Los Angeles	Sunny	77° / 62°	
Manila	Thunderstorm	86° / 77°	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	57° / 52°	
Miami	Partly Cloudy	87° / 78°	
New York	Thunderstorm	83° / 66°	
Osaka	Rain	81° / 75°	
Paris	Sunny	84° / 64°	
Busan	Windy	73° / 68°	
Rome	Sunny	88° / 70°	
Salem	Thunderstorm	90° / 72°	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	67° / 54°	
Seoul	Sunny	79° / 61°	
Tokyo	Thunderstorm	81° / 75°	
Washington, DC	Thunderstorm	88° / 68°	



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
1:17 AM	LOW TIDE	1.88	
7:56 AM	HIGH TIDE	0.81	
12:54 PM	LOW TIDE	1.37	
7:11 PM	HIGH TIDE	0.49	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:51 AM	6:51 PM
Saturday	5:52 AM	6:51 PM
Sunday	5:52 AM	6:51 PM
Monday	5:52 AM	6:51 PM
Tuesday	5:52 AM	6:51 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	12:09 PM	-
Saturday	12:30 AM	1:00 PM	-
Sunday	1:11 AM	1:53 PM	-
Monday	1:56 AM	2:50 PM	-
Tuesday	2:45 AM	3:49 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily	UA117	7:00am	7:45am	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7	7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5	7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1	OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7	OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)				HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN			
JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1	JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4	JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN	UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM	PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO43	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7	UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
				UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily
GUAM TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily

1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Presentation on US Constitutional Rights in CNMI tomorrow

The CNMI Bar Association, in partnership with the U.S. District Court for the NMI and the Latte Training Academy, will host a special presentation

by Chief Judge Gustavo A. Gelpi on "U.S. Constitutional Rights in the Territories and the CNMI."

U.S. District Judge Gustavo

A Gelpi was appointed to the federal bench by President George W. Bush in 2006.

He is currently the Chief Judge of the United States

District Court in Puerto Rico. Previously he served as U.S. Magistrate Judge and Solicitor General for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Both as a judge and attorney, he has authored opinions and argued cases involving matters pertaining to the constitutional relationship of Puerto Rico with the United States.

Gelpi is the author of various articles about the historical and legal status of U.S. territories, and recently published a book about the subject, *The Constitutional Evo-*

lution of Puerto Rico and Other U.S. Territories 1898-Present.

He has also offered a law school course about the U.S. territories at the University of Puerto Rico, Interamerican University, Pontifical Catholic University and University of Hawai'i. Gelpi was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico and is a graduate of Brandeis University and Suffolk University Law School.

The presentation will take

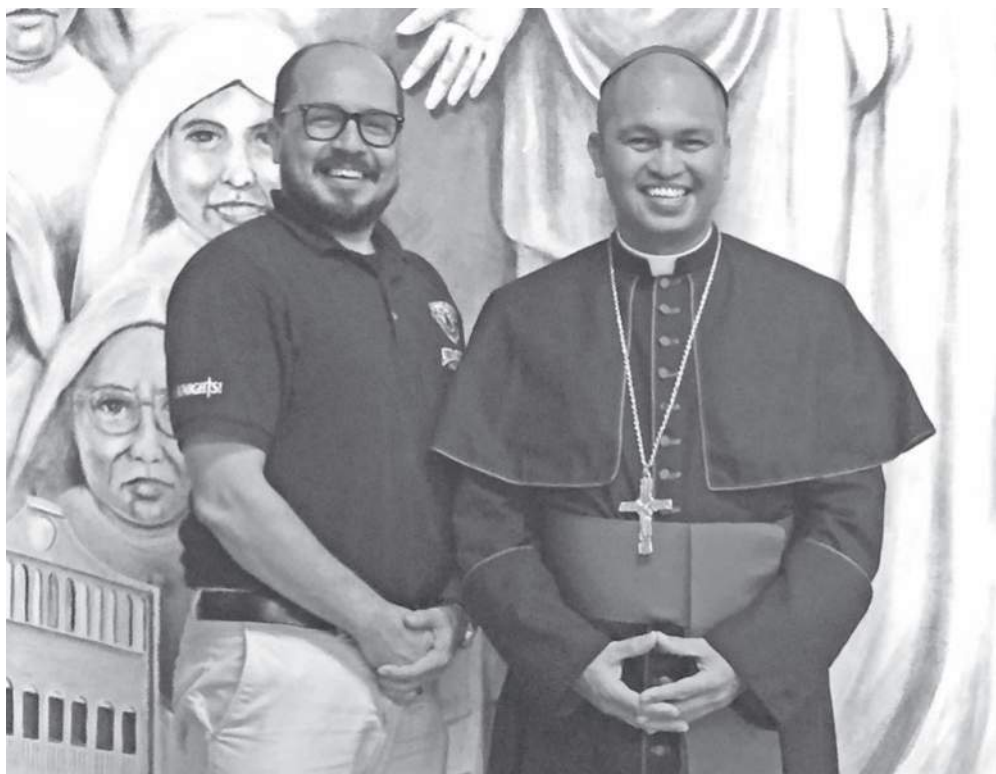


Gelpi

place on Friday, July 6, at the American Memorial Park Visitors Center Theater in Garapan from 6pm to 7:30pm. It is free and open to the public and made possible by funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities through a grant award from the Northern Marianas Humanities Council.

For more details or if you have any inquiries, contact Eulalia V. Arriola via e-mail at cnmibar@gmail.com. (PR)

MCS board of directors maintains current tuition levels



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mount Carmel School president Galvin Deleon Guerrero, left, with Bishop Ryan Jimenez.

In an effort to continue helping parents, Mount Carmel School's board of directors recently decided to maintain current tuition levels. While the economy is improving, the board recognized that other issues, such as immigration, are weighing heavily on many families. In the past 20 years, the school has only raised tuition three times, in 1999, in 2009, and in 2015.

School president, Galvin Deleon Guerrero, applauded the decision of the board, which is led by chairman and AlumKnight Vicente Babauta. Deleon Guerrero said, "It's al-

ways been our goal to offer the best Catholic education possible while keeping it affordable for our parents." He added, "The board has demonstrated leadership and compassion in this decision."

Despite the board's decision, Deleon Guerrero noted that it will be difficult. "While tuition is not rising, our costs continue to rise for utilities, curricular resources, and practically all other expenses," he said.

"But, we will continue to control our spending, diversify our revenue stream, and supplement our resources through other means, such as

federal grants."

The school will also continue family discounts for families that enroll more than one child. Families with two children can avail of a \$600 discount for the second child, families with three children can avail of a \$1,000 discount for the third child, and families with four children can avail of a \$1,500 discount for the fourth child.

To learn more about enrolling at Mount Carmel School for the upcoming 2018-2019 school year, call 234-6184 or visit www.mountcarmel-saipan.com. (PR)

Fishing vessel *Sea Goddess* aground off Honolulu Airport

HONOLULU—The Coast Guard is investigating the cause of a fishing vessel grounding off the Honolulu Airport, Wednesday.

Coast Guard crews and salvors from Cates Marine responded to the grounding Wednesday morning, the vessel was successfully refloated, and the Coast Guard is investigating the cause of the grounding.

The case has also been referred to the State of Hawaii Department of Health-Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response Office and the Department of Land and Natural Resources for pollution and environmental assessment in the vicinity of the grounding.

About 30 minutes past midnight Sector Honolulu watchstanders received a report from the master of the *Sea Goddess*, an 83-foot Honolulu-based longliner, they were aground about 150-yards from the middle runway at Honolulu Airport with six people aboard.

A 45-foot Response Boat-Medium crew from Coast Guard Station Honolulu was launched to assist, and pollution investigators arrived on shore to assess the situation. An Air Station Barbers Point MH-65 Dolphin helicopter crew also conducted an aerial assessment. Cates Marine was hired by the owner to refloat

the vessel and by 9:30 a.m. the vessel was free. It will be towed into the Port of Honolulu and inspected before being allowed to return to service.

There are no reports of injuries or pollution released. The maximum pollution potential of the vessel is 10,000 gallons of diesel fuel, 75 gallons of lube oil, and oily water mix. The weather at the time of the grounding was reported as clear skies with 4-foot seas and 15 mph winds. The crew was not in danger and remained aboard the vessel.

The cause of the grounding is under investigation. All relevant state and city partners have been notified. (PR)



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY(CPA) CNMI GOVERNMENT

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 • Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the Perimeter Security Fence Replacement at the Thomas Camacho Mendiola Commercial Seaport, Rota, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, Project AIP No. CPA-RS-002-15.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Thomas Camacho Mendiola Commercial Seaport Perimeter Security Fence Replacement, Rota, CNMI, Project No. CPA-RS-002-15" and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, JULY 6, 2018**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read at the Saipan Airport Conference Room immediately after 2:00 p.m. on the same day.

The Project, in general, consists of, but is not limited to complete removal of fencing and concrete post footings and installation of new fence and concrete footings, all in accordance with the Project Drawings and Specifications.

The Project is being financed by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project in its entirety shall be **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY (150) Calendar Days**. Liquidated damages in the amount of **THREE HUNDRED (\$300.00) Dollars** shall be assessed the Contractor for each calendar day that the completion of the Project is delayed beyond beyond the contract completion date without approved excuse.

The apparent low bidder will be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

A CD-ROM containing the Bid Proposal and Contract Documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of plans and documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. The payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the "Commonwealth Ports Authority".

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Rota Ports Manager's Office, Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport, at **10:00 AM, FRIDAY, JUNE 29, 2018**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. A site visit will be followed by the pre-bid conference.

Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the bid opening date.

Each bid proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders shall use the bid schedule form available on the CD. Each bidder must also supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter of the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by a U.S. Treasury listed surety or CPA approved company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority. All bidders shall comply with all U.S. and CNMI laws pertaining to construction.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director



'WE ARE THE NORTH'

Northern Island residents line up to board the M/V *Super Emerald* that will take them to the Northern Islands. The boat left the Port of Saipan at noon Sunday and was scheduled to arrive Alamagan early Monday.

BEA CABRERA

PCC hosts 3rd EMT Training

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The 3rd Emergency Medical Technician Training was hosted by the Palau Community College.



Palau Community College hosted the 3rd Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Training for eight weeks for Ministry of Justice Law Enforcement Officers and Palau Public Utility Corporation Safety Officers.

The first EMT training was conducted at PCC to law enforcement officers from Division of Fire & Rescue-MOJ and Airport Rescue & Fire Fighting-MPIIC in

October 2015 through collaborative efforts between Palau Community College, Ministry of Justice, and the Ministry of Health.

The enactment of RPPL No. 10-9, which was signed by the ROP President Tommy Remengesau in July 2017, requires training and certification of emergency ambulance service personnel including a well equipped ambulance with all emergency medical

supplies needed as required by regulation to be promulgated by the Ministry of Health.

As a result, the 2nd EMT training was conducted by LCDR Andreas Stiller from CAT Palau 133-27 and Edward Caballero from Kapiolani Community College at PCC Continuing Education from November 2017 to February 2018 to train additional law enforcement officers from MOJ Division of

Fire and Rescue. Since then, two (2) officers, Nathan Adelbai and Kayla Reblud from the Division of Fire and Rescue attended EMT assistant instructor training at the University of Hawaii-Kapio'olani Community College from February to May, 2018 as part of train-the-trainer initiative.

This year's training will run

from June 15 to Aug. 14, 2018 and will cover didactic and clinical topics such as the Human Body, Lifespan Development, Pharmacology, Patient Assessment, Airway Management, Shock Management, BLS Resuscitation, Neurological Emergencies, and Endocrine and Hematology. Participants will learn to demonstrate

knowledge, skills, and abilities on medical and trauma patient; learning how to use appropriate equipment to clear human airway passage, breathing comfort, and air circulation. Participants will be able to demonstrate critical thinking skills by prioritizing and delegating on-scene patient management. (PR)

Interior helps launch pilot robotics program in Palau

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Doug Domenech, U.S. Department of the Interior Assistant Secretary, Insular and International Affairs, this week announced \$5,913.00 in fiscal year 2018 grant funding to the Coral Reef Research Foundation to support a three week "robotics" program for high school and community college students in Palau this summer. The program will be led by Kevin Bowen, founder of "Porpoise Robotics."

"Secretary Zinke and I are pleased to be able to join in helping to launch a pilot robotics educational program in Palau this summer," said Assistant Secretary Domenech. "We are proud to support researchers, teachers, and administrators in Palau who work hard to provide additional opportunities for the learning and development of students in Palau."

The Coral Reef Research Foundation in Palau will host the training. Teachers and teaching assistants will be the targeted trainees during the first week. Students with an interest in robotics, science, and engineering will be the

targeted trainees for the second and third weeks. Students and teachers alike will learn hands-on building skills, design electronic circuits, write C++ code, and invoke computational thinking to create a "Land Shark" ground vehicle through the process of "mechatronics" (electro-mechanical devices controlled by computers). It is estimated that this pilot program will reach at least 36 students and a dozen teachers. The project team views this as a pilot program and hopes to gauge interest to tailor future robotics educational programs in Palau, including underwater robotics.

Last month while on official travel to Pohnpei in the Federated States of Micronesia, Assistant Secretary Domenech announced a \$241,675 technical assistance grant for continuation of the Yap Robo League and expansion to include students from the islands of Weno (Chuuk) and Pohnpei in the Federated States of Micronesia for academic year 2018-2019.

Funding for both programs has been provided through the Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs' Technical Assistance Program. Applications are submitted from October through May 1st each year. Funds are awarded once OIA receives appropriations from the U.S. Congress until the funds are exhausted.

The Assistant Secretary, Insular and International Affairs, and the Office of Insular Affairs carry out the Secretary of the Interior's responsibilities for the U.S. territories of Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Additionally, OIA administers and oversees Federal assistance under the Compacts of Free Association to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. OIA supports the Secretary's mission of Fulfilling Trust and Insular Responsibilities through balancing efforts and limited resources towards stronger economic and health capacities, and fiscal accountability in the U.S. insular areas. (PR)

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Matson Foundation donates to PCC



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Palau Matson representative Wilbert Kamerang and Cornelius Eason present the \$1,000 check donation to Palau Community College president Dr. Patrick U. Tellei.

Matson Foundation donated \$1,000 to the Palau Community College Scholarship Fund last June 25.

Palau Matson representative Wilbert Kamerang and Cornelius Eason presented the check donation to PCC president Dr. Patrick U. Tellei.

Founded in 1882, Matson has been a strong supporter of the needs of communities that utilize its services. The company began as an

affiliation of Alexander & Baldwin, Inc. but became an independent public trading corporation in 2012.

Since becoming an independent company, Matson established the Matson Foundation, a charitable giving program under the company. The Matson Foundation considers all qualified non-profit organizations that could improve the business development opportunities in communities

served by the company. NPOs eligible for donations from the Matson Foundation include organizations in the areas of environment and ocean resource conservation, education, energy, human services such as community health, culture & arts, and civic & community programs such as clean-ups or volunteerism. PCC would like to thank Matson Foundation for its generous donation to the college. (PR)

Interior announces \$827,812 in FY '18 grant allocations to USVI

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Doug Domenech, U.S. Department of the Interior Assistant Secretary, Insular and International Affairs, announced \$827,812 in fiscal year 2018 grant funding to the U.S. Virgin Islands. The funds will serve to provide emergency power back-up for critical facilities, strengthen water and wastewater management, and help protect and preserve historical artifacts.

“Secretary Zinke and I are committed to helping the U.S. Virgin Islands wherever possible,” said Assistant Secretary Domenech. “This year’s

funding improves resiliency by providing emergency power back-up for the East End Medical Center and the Gustave A. Quetel Fish House, two facilities adversely affected by the 2017 hurricanes due to extended power outages. The rest of the funding provides important capacity building and improves local management efforts.”

Funds awarded to the U.S. Virgin Islands for fiscal year 2018 follow:

■ Gustav A. Quetel Fish House - \$60,322 to purchase and install a 30 kw generator as an alternative source of

energy at this multi-purpose facility. Fisherfolk, both commercial and recreational, as well as produce farmers use the facility to provide fish and vegetable products on St. Thomas. This facility, critical to the local economy and for general sustenance of the populace, was shut down for 45 days

following Hurricanes Irma and Maria due to the lack of an alternative source of power.

■ East End Medical Center Corporation - \$200,000 to purchase an electrical power

generator to provide uninterrupted electrical services at the facility and uninterruptible power supplies to protect from electrical surges.

■ Water and Power Authority - \$250,000 for the St. Croix Water System Master Plan to evaluate the water system infrastructure and \$117,490 for technical training in the water department.

■ Division of Libraries, Archives, and Museums - \$200,000 for restoration, conservation, rehousing, and protection of historic objects,

natural history specimens, and other artifacts affected by Hurricanes Irma and Maria.

Funds are made available through the Office of Insular Affairs’ Technical Assistance and Maintenance Assistance Programs. Applications are submitted from October through May 1st each year. Funds are awarded once OIA receives appropriations from the U.S. Congress until the funds are exhausted.

The Assistant Secretary, Insular and International Affairs, and the Office of Insular Affairs carry out the Secretary of the Interior’s responsibilities for the U.S. territories of

Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Additionally, OIA administers and oversees Federal assistance under the Compacts of Free Association to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. OIA supports the Secretary’s mission of Fulfilling Trust and Insular Responsibilities through balancing efforts and limited resources towards stronger economic and health capacities, and fiscal accountability in the U.S. insular areas. (PR)



Domenech

THROUGH SAFER MARITIME ROUTES IN PACIFIC

Maritime experts look to better protect coastal and reef environments

SUVA, Fiji—In the face of rising maritime accidents in the Pacific region, maritime experts from 12 Pacific Islands Countries gathered this week to discuss and receive training focused on creating a safer environment for ships operating in coastal island waters.

The workshop, which took place June 25-26, was implemented by the Pacific Community with support from the International Foundation for Aids to Navigation as part of the Pacific Safety of Navigation Project.

Workshop participants, made up of Aids to Navigation Managers and representatives of government responsible for Aids to Navigation, also undertook an internationally recognized training on the “SIRA” risk assessment tool on June 27-28, which was facilitated by the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouses World Wide Academy.

“The two-day “SIRA” course empowered the 15 participants to conduct formal risk assessments in their waters which, once actioned, will improve navigational safety, protect the marine environment and enhance the maritime economic climate in each State”, added Stephen Bennett, Vice Dean of IALA World Wide Academy, who delivered the training.

The Pacific Safety of Navigation Project has been active since 2016, and over the course of the past two years, phase one of this project has seen SPC conducting visits in 13 targeted PICTs, to identify the needs for

safety of navigation systems through a technical, legal and economic assessment.

Francesca Pradelli, SPC Project manager of the Pacific Safety of Navigation Project, highlighted the importance of project for Pacific maritime safety saying, “creating a safe environment for ships in Pacific islands coastal waters is of paramount importance for the protection of our reefs and coasts. Aids to Navigation marking maritime routes must be properly installed and maintained by Pacific islands countries to safety information to all at sea.”

Over the course of the two days of workshop sessions, participants conducted an in-depth analysis of phase one results and agreed on technical assistance activities to be undertaken in the next years to further improve delivery of AtoN services in the Pacific.

The Pacific Safety of Navigation project has been very useful for Samoa, as it has provided the Maritime Administration with appropriate information, both technical, economical and legal,” declared Makerita Atonio, the representative from Samoa.

During the next three years SPC will assist all 13 PICTs as they conduct risk assessments and implement the phase one recommendations including an update or development of an AtoN Register, the provision of laws or alternative instruments to strengthen PICTs legal framework on safety of navigation and the development of budget and maintenance plans. (PR)



KIMBERLY BAUTISTA
Liberation Day queen Brinae Jessilyn Maritita Cruz, center, poses with the rest of the 2018 Royal Court during the 2018 Liberation Day Royal Court coronation ceremony last Sunday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Establishment of Network for Educational Research promises to improve education outcomes across Pacific

SUVA, Fiji—A new Network for Educational Research was launched this week at a workshop of Pacific education experts and researchers held in Suva. The Network will focus on sharing knowledge and promoting evidence based decisions across the region, and build on the impressive progress made in the development of world-class education system in the Pacific.

The workshop was facilitated by the Pacific Community through its Educational Quality & Assessment Programme in partnership with the University of the South Pacific (USP) Institute of Education and School of Education.

Participants for the two days of sessions included research-

ers from the Education Ministries from the Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

In her opening keynote address, Dr. Seu'ula Johansson-Fua, USP director Institute of Education stressed, “To encourage a culture of research within any Ministry, there is a need for a champion—a leader who is a researcher through and through. Cultures within any organization are the domains of leaders and as such, to promote a culture of research in your ministry, you or someone in your ministry must champion the cause.”

The Network for Educa-

tional Research will connect Ministries of Education in Pacific Islands, and establish an effective communication platform to share the successes and challenges that education programs face in this region.

EQAP Education Research Specialist Nina Tu’I expressed her confidence in potential of the Network saying, “We are so privileged to provide this space which allows countries to bring research to the fore within Education Ministries. There is a renewed focus on developing capacity to be able to provide high quality, relevant and timely research evidence for decision makers.”

The 27 Education researchers will also attend and participate in the USP’s Vaka

Pasifiki Education Conference (VPEC), for which SPC is a Gold Sponsor. VPEC provides an opportunity for sharing ideas on research, best practice, teaching, and learning in Oceania, utilising a unique methodology to facilitate an academic conference used traditional and cultural approaches from the Pacific.

Over 300 participants including national, regional and international educators will attend the education conference at USP from July 5 to 6, which aims to pave the way for data based decisions by Education Ministries throughout the Pacific and compliments the goals of the Network for Educational Research. (PR)

Business

China push to end reliance on US tech at trade fight's core

BEIJING (AP)—Fears that China is threatening U.S. leadership in robots, electric cars and other advanced technologies are pushing the world's two biggest economies toward a full-blown trade war as the two sides prepare to impose tariffs Friday on billions of dollars' worth of each other's products.

In fact, China remains heavily reliant on technologies from the West.

Tech giant ZTE Corp.'s near-death experience after Washington barred it from buying U.S. components was a stark reminder that China's industry leaders cannot function without American technology.

■■■
BEIJING (AP)—A Chinese government spokesman has said Beijing “will not bow in the face of threats and blackmail” on the eve of U.S. tariff hikes and will defend its interests.

The Commerce Ministry spokesman, Gao Feng, said Thursday that Beijing will wait to see what Washington does before taking action of its own.

The Trump administration is poised to raise tariffs on \$34 billion of Chinese imports on Friday in the dispute over technology policy. China has threatened to retaliate.

Gao said at a news conference, “China will not bow in the face of threats and blackmail.” He said if Washington acts, China will “fight back to defend the core interests of the country and the interests of the people.”

■■■
ZTE's chairman warned that the ban imposed in April over its exports to Iran and North Korea might destroy China's No. 2 maker of net-



ZTE's logo is seen in a telecommunication services shop in Beijing Wednesday, July 4, 2018.

work gear. To regain access, the company agreed to pay a \$1 billion fine and to replace its executive team.

ZTE is far from alone. China assembles some 90 percent of the world's smartphones, computers and other electronics. But most of the revenue flows to American companies that supply computer chips and other technology.

In the broader economy, Chinese banks, airlines, farms and other industries need U.S. technology from jetliners to drugs to software.

What Washington welcomes as a source of well-paid jobs, Chinese leaders consider a dangerous dependence. They are trying to wean China off foreign technology by pouring billions of dollars into developing their own innovators.

Despite the threat from President Donald Trump of tariff hikes on up to \$450 billion of Chinese goods, Beijing shows no sign it will scale back plans it sees as a path to prosperity and global influence.

“Self-reliance is the base of the struggle for the Chinese

nation to stand among the peoples of the world,” said President Xi Jinping in a speech in March to members of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and Chinese Academy of Engineering.

Xi called for “disruptive innovations” in leading technologies, according to the official Xinhua News Agency.

“Independent innovation is the only way for us to ascend the world's technological pinnacle,” it quoted Xi as saying.

A key Chinese weakness is in semiconductors, used in everything from smartphones to cars, according to industry analysts. Even after decades of government-backed programs to nurture such knowhow, high costs and research challenges mean China still needs years to create its own.

“I don't think there is a lot of progress,” said Nikhil Batra, who follows the telecom equipment industry for IDC.

Trade data suggest China imported as much as \$26 billion worth of integrated circuits last year, according to Kenny Liew of BMI Research.

Exporting Countries cartel agreed to pump 1 million barrels more crude oil daily, a move that should help contain the recent rise in global energy prices. However, summer months in the U.S. usually lead to increased demand for oil, boosting the price of gasoline in a midterm election year.

Mexico's Lopez Obrador sets \$7.5 billion for youths, elderly

MEXICO CITY (AP)—President-elect Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador promised \$7.5 billion for youth job training and aid to the elderly Wednesday, keystone pro-

grams that could make Mexico's business sector one of the biggest beneficiaries of his first year in office. Lopez Obrador pledged the government would pay the salaries of apprentices employed by Mexican companies as part of a \$5 billion package of scholarships and job training. The once-fiery leftist met with Mexican businessmen on Wednesday in a surprisingly chummy encounter where he sealed the job-training deal in a handshake with business chamber leader Juan Pablo Castanon. The programs for the elderly and youths will be the cornerstones of Lopez Obrador's first year in office, which starts when he takes office Dec. 1.

Nation

Americans celebrate July 4 with fireworks, parades, salutes

NEW YORK (AP)—With backyard barbecues and fireworks, Americans celebrated Independence Day by participating in time-honored traditions that expressed pride in their country's 242nd birthday.

But this quintessential American holiday was being marked with a sense of a United States divided for some, evidenced by competing televised events in the nation's capital.

From New York to California, July Fourth festivities ranged from the lively and to the lighthearted, with Macy's July Fourth fireworks and Nathan's Famous hot dog eating contest.

The day's events also were stately and traditional, with parades lining streets across the country and the world's oldest commissioned warship firing a 21-gun salute to mark the 242 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

For some Western states, however, the holiday was a bit more muted as high wildfire danger forced communities to cancel fireworks displays.

Here are some highlights of Wednesday's festivities:

OLDEST WARSHIP

The USS Constitution has sailed in Boston Harbor and fired its guns again to mark Independence Day.

The world's oldest commissioned warship still afloat left its berth at the Charlestown Navy Yard on Wednesday morning. It glided through the harbor to mark 242 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

The ship, nicknamed Old Ironsides, traveled to Fort Independence on Castle Island to fire a 21-gun salute. The ship's commander saluted the crowds gathered there.

A Navy sailor on board recited the Declaration of Independence during the cruise.

A HISTORIC PARADE

Crowds lined the streets in a Rhode Island town to see what's billed as the nation's oldest continuous Fourth of July celebration. Begun in 1785, the Bristol parade typically attracts about 100,000 people to the seaside town.

This year's was a scorcher: Temperatures hovered near 90 degrees when the parade began late Wednesday morn-

ing, and some marchers were treated for heat exhaustion and taken off the route.

DUELING CELEBRATIONS

The country's longest-running live national July Fourth television tradition is PBS' broadcast of music and fireworks from the U.S. Capitol's West Lawn. But it's facing new counterprogramming this year from the White House, which is hosting its own concert and view of the National Park Service's fireworks show.

PBS' “A Capitol Fourth” has the bigger stars, including The Beach Boys, Jimmy Buffett, Pentatonix, Chita Rivera, Luke Combs and The Temptations. It will be hosted by John Stamos.

The entertainers on the 90-minute White House event airing on the Hallmark Channel include singer-songwriter Sara Evans, pianist Lola Astanova and two former “American Idol” finalists. Both shows will include the fireworks display from the National Park Service.

First lady Melania Trump said the White House show would allow Americans to “tune in from their homes and be part of the festivities.” PBS declined to comment.

LIGHTING UP THE NIGHT SKIES

In New York, the Macy's fireworks show over the East River promises 25 minutes of sparkle and ahhh plus the West Point Band and entertainers including Kelly Clarkson, Ricky Martin and Keith Urban on NBC's broadcast.

But some places in the American West have canceled their planned July Fourth fireworks because of high wildfire danger, and others are doing drone light displays instead of pyrotechnics.

In Colorado, the wildfire danger forced some communities to cancel their fireworks. However, other shows will still go as planned in Denver, Colorado Springs and Fort Collins.

The small mountain town of Silverton, in southwestern Colorado, called off the fireworks part of its annual Independence Day party, but the rest of Wednesday's celebration is still on, including live music a water fight with firefighters. Aspen will have

a fire-proof drone light display above town.

NEW AMERICANS, DIVIDED AMERICA

This was the first Fourth of July that many people were able to call themselves U.S. citizens after participating in naturalization ceremonies across the country.

In New Hampshire, more than 100 people from 48 countries became U.S. citizens during a ceremony at the Strawberry Banke museum in Portsmouth as part of the museum's annual American Celebration. A ceremony also was held aboard the USS New Jersey, where dozens of people from countries including Vietnam and Bangladesh were sworn in.

The new citizens pledged allegiance to a country where some people lament that the ability to debate respectfully the toughest issues of the day seems hopelessly lost.

Several people were arrested Wednesday after hanging a banner from the Statue of Liberty's pedestal that called for abolishing U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Later, a protester climbed the statue's base, forcing the evacuation of Liberty Island, and stayed there for hours before police removed her.

LGBTQ PARADE PARTICIPANTS

Utah LGBTQ groups marched for the first time in a prominent July Fourth festival in the conservative city of Provo after years of organizers blocking them from participating.

The groups were met by cheers and rainbow flags as they marched Wednesday morning in the America's Freedom Festival parade.

Participants included a center for LGBTQ youth and an organization that works to bridge divides between the LGBTQ community and the Mormon church.

The groups' parade application was initially denied this year by festival organizers who said participants cannot focus on political or social issues but should instead focus on patriotism.

County officials threatened to pull \$100,000 in taxpayer money from the privately organized event until festival organizers struck a deal allowing the groups to participate.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Trump says gas prices are up, OPEC 'doing little to help'

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump says OPEC is “doing little to help” rising gas prices and claims “if anything, they are driving prices higher.” Trump tweeted Wednesday: “The OPEC Monopoly must remember that gas prices are up & they are doing little to help. If anything, they are driving prices higher as the United States defends many of their members for very little \$'s. This must be a two way street. REDUCE PRICING NOW!” Last month, members of the Organization of the Petroleum

Asia

Thai official says boys may be taken out of cave in stages

MAE SAI, Thailand (AP)—A Thai official overseeing the rescue operation of a soccer team trapped in a flooded cave said the 12 boys and their coach may not all be extracted at the same time depending on their health.

Chiang Rai provincial Gov. Narongsak Osatanakorn said Wednesday that “all 13 may not come out at the same time. If the condition is right and if that person is ready 100 percent, he can come out.” He said authorities will evaluate their readiness each day and if there is any risk will not proceed.

The teammates and their coach were seen in latest video sitting with Thai navy SEALs in the dark cave, their skinny faces illuminated by a flashlight. The boys, many wrapped in foil warming blankets, take turns introducing themselves, pressing their hands together in a traditional Thai greeting and saying their names and that they are healthy.

Narongsak said that the boys have been practicing wearing diving masks and breathing, but he doesn't believe they have attempted any practice dives.

The boys, aged 11-16, and their 25-year-old coach disappeared after they went exploring in the Tham Luang Nang Non cave in northern Chiang Rai province after a soccer game June 23. The teammates,

who were trapped inside when heavy rains flooded the cave, were found by rescue divers Monday night during a desperate search that drew assistance from experts around the globe.

Authorities said the boys, who had also been shown Tuesday in a video shot by the British diver who discovered them, were being looked after by seven members of the Thai navy SEALs, including medics, who were staying with them inside the cave. They were mostly in stable condition and have received high-protein drinks.

In all of the videos, the boys appeared in good spirits. In the most recent video, a navy SEAL is shown treating minor cuts on the feet and legs of the boys with antibiotic ointment. Several of the boys are seen smiling as they interact with the navy SEAL, who cracks jokes.

Seeing the boys has boosted the mood of their family members, and officials are working to install an internet cable to the cave so that parents can talk to their children.

Kian Kamluang, whose 16-year-old son, Pornchai, is in the cave, said she had thought there was a 50 percent chance that her son would be found.

“It's like he has been given a new life,” she said, adding that she'll never let her son go into a cave or near water again.

Those waiting for the boys to come out included a group of students who are friends with some of the boys trapped inside, who sang a song in front of the entrance to show their support.

Several religious figures have also shown up, the most popular being a famous Buddhist monk, Kruba Boonchum, who when he first visited the scene had predicted that the boys would be found this week.

He returned Wednesday to offer prayers for their safe rescue, and as measure of the respect in which he was held, was allowed access to the cave, which is generally off-limits to outsiders.

SEAL commander Rear Adm. Arpakorn Yookongkaew said that there was no rush to bring the group out of the cave, since they're safe where they are. The current flooding situation means the boys would have to dive, which rescue experts have said could be extremely dangerous.

While efforts to pump out floodwaters are continuing, some Thai officials have indicated that heavy rains forecast for this weekend could force them to decide the boys should swim and dive out using the same complicated route of narrow passageways through which their rescuers entered.

PH wants rebels 'encamped' in fixed areas for talks

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine government will demand that peace talks with communist rebels shift from Europe to the Philippines and the insurgents are encamped in designated areas during the negotiations to peacefully settle one of Asia's longest-raging insurgencies.

Presidential adviser Jesus Dureza said Thursday that New People's Army guerrillas would also be asked to stop collecting so-called “revolutionary tax” from companies and demanding to be part of a future coalition government.

President Rodrigo Duterte's conditions were finalized in a meeting with top military and police officials late Wednesday. They're seen as likely to be rejected by the guerrillas, who fear that holding talks in Manila would expose them — including their Europe-exiled leaders — to military surveillance and harassment.

The low-level, rural-based rebellion, which has raged since 1969, has left about 40,000 combatants and civil-

ians dead, hampered security and economic development in the impoverished countryside for nearly half a century. The military estimates that about 3,900 Marxist insurgents continue to wage the insurgency.

“The doors for the resumption of peace talks ... are still open,” Dureza said in a statement.

Dureza said the president still wishes Norway to continue brokering the broader talks, but added that “in the meantime, localized peace arrangements may be pursued by the local government units with the insurgents.”

When he took power in 2016, Duterte resumed peace talks with the rebels but canceled them last year to protest continued guerrilla attacks on troops. He also signed an order declaring the rebel group a terrorist organization, a label the insurgents have opposed. The United States has also designated the rebels as terrorists.

After preliminary talks, both sides agreed to a new

temporary cease-fire on June 21, with peace talks to resume a few days later in Norway, which has been brokering the decades-long negotiations. But Duterte delayed the resumption indefinitely to allow public consultations, antagonizing the guerrillas.

Last week, communist rebel leader Jose Maria Sison, who founded the Communist Party of the Philippines and is based in the Netherlands, said the insurgents can no longer hold peace talks with Duterte's administration and that it is better to help oust him and negotiate with his successor. Other rebels, however, said that Sison's recommendation would still have to be approved by other guerrilla leaders.

The volatile Philippine president shrugged off Sison's threat and said he was ready to continue fighting the insurgents. “If they're not willing to talk to me, that's fine. I have no problem so we continue with the war. Anyway, we've been there for 50 years,” Duterte told reporters.

World

60 migrants refused by Italy, Malta arrive in Barcelona

BARCELONA, Spain (AP)—A rescue ship carrying 60 migrants arrived Wednesday in a Spanish port after being refused entry by Italy and Malta, the second time in a month that a humanitarian group has been forced to travel for days to unload people rescued in the central Mediterranean.

The Italian government is blocking private rescue boats that it blames for encouraging human traffickers to launch unseaworthy boats loaded with migrants toward Europe.

But the aid groups deny having any link to smugglers in Libya or elsewhere, and say they are being forced to leave unattended the busy migrant sea transit route where deaths are mounting while they make the long journey to Spain.

The Open Arms rescue ship completed a four-day journey to Barcelona, in northeastern Spain, after it saved 60 people Saturday from a rubber boat floating in waters north of Libya.

The migrants come from 14 different countries and include five women, a 9-year-old boy and four older teenagers, some of them unaccompanied. The Spanish aid group Proactiva Open Arms said they were generally in good health but some



Two activists sit on top of the 60-meter (197-foot) monument Christopher Columbus tower after placing a vest with the words “Open Arms” on the statue in Barcelona, Spain, Wednesday, July 4, 2018.

may have fuel burns.

The group's founder, Oscar Camps, refused to celebrate bringing the rescued migrants to port. He said he was angry about being turned away by European Union countries and having to leave behind other migrants who reportedly drowned.

“We haven't saved 60 people,” he said. “We have let 340 people die.”

The migrants were going through health checks and identification procedures. Authorities granted them a 30-day permit to apply for residence or asylum in the European Union. Many have relatives in Germany, Belgium or France.

According to the International Organization for Migration, more than 500 people have died trying to cross from Libya since the Aquarius, another charity rescue ship, was blocked from ports in Italy and Malta in early June. Its 630 migrants were finally taken in by Spain and France.

Doctors Without Borders blamed the deaths on the European Union's inaction.

“The EU is abdicating their responsibilities to save lives, blocking search and rescue and condemning people to be trapped in Libya,” the group said in a tweet Wednesday. “Any deaths caused by this are now at their hands.”

Police: 2 more exposed to same nerve agent that sickened spy

AMESBURY, England (AP)—For the second time in four months, two people lie critically ill in England's Salisbury District Hospital after being exposed to a military-grade nerve agent developed in the Soviet Union, British police confirmed late Wednesday.

The country's chief counterterrorism police officer said tests at Britain's defense laboratory had confirmed what many residents feared—a man and woman in their 40s had been poisoned with the same toxin that almost killed a former Russian spy and his daughter.

“We can confirm that the man and woman have been exposed to the nerve agent Novichok, which has been identified as the same nerve agent that contaminated both Yulia and Sergei Skripal,” said Assistant Commissioner Neil Basu of London's Metropolitan Police.

Local police declared the case a “major incident” Wednesday, four days after the man and woman were

found collapsed at a residential building in Amesbury, eight miles (13 kilometers) from Salisbury, where the Skripals were poisoned.

Basu said it was not clear whether there was a link between the two cases, and whether the nerve agent came from the same batch that left the Skripals fighting for their lives.

a few miles from where a former Russian spy and his daughter were poisoned with a nerve agent. (July 4)

“The possibility that these two investigations might be linked is clearly a line of enquiry for us,” he said, amid speculation that the victims could have been sickened by residue from the poison used on the Skripals.

Basu said it was unclear whether the two were targeted, but there was “nothing in their background to suggest that at all.”

Residents of the area felt a grim sense of déjà vu. Four months after their quiet corner of England was plunged

into a Cold War-style saga of spies, chemical weapons and international tensions, they wondered whether it was happening all over again. Britain accuses Russia of attacking the Skripals; Russia denies it.

“With the Russian attack happening not long ago, we just assumed the worst,” said student Chloe Edwards, who said police and fire engines descended on a quiet street of newly built homes in Amesbury on Saturday evening.

Edwards said she saw people in green suits—like those worn by forensics officers—and her family was told to stay indoors for several hours.

Police said officers were initially called Saturday morning about a collapsed woman, then were summoned back in the evening after a man fell ill at the same property. Police at first thought the two, identified by friends as 44-year-old Dawn Sturgess and 45-year-old Charlie Rowley, had taken a contaminated batch of heroin or crack.

Off The Wall

Alaskan husky helps rescue injured hiker near Anchorage



AP

This Tuesday, June 19, 2018 photo by Amelia Milling shows her with a 7-year-old Alaskan husky named Nanook, that is credited with helping rescue her when she injured was hiking a trail in the Chugach State Park east of Anchorage, Alaska.

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—A 7-year-old Alaskan husky is credited with helping rescue an injured woman hiking a trail east of Anchorage, Alaska.

The dog named Nanook helped pull Amelia Milling to shore after she fell while crossing the Eagle River last month, the Alaska Star reported.

Milling, a 21-year-old college student from Tennessee, was hiking the Crow Pass Trail and was injured early in the planned three-day hike. The white dog found her after she tumbled down a snowy slope and hit a rock that launched her into the air, she said.

“My first response was, where’s the owner?” Milling said. “Then I saw the collar and it said (the dog) was a Crow Pass guide, and I realized that he was there to help me.”

Nanook guided her back to the trail and camped with her overnight. The next day Nanook stayed with Milling as she attempted to ford the river.

The spot was too deep, and Milling fell into the water. As she scrambled to the shore, Nanook helped her out of the freezing glacial water.

“She slipped and fell, and the dog was able to save her and get her back to shore,” Lt. Eric Olsen said with the Alaska State Troopers.

Milling later activated an emergency locator and was rescued by a trooper helicopter. Milling and Nanook were airlifted to Anchorage. Milling was treated for minor injuries and released.

“I believe the dog is a guardian angel,” Milling said.

Troopers at first thought the dog was Milling’s, but later

saw Nanook’s tags, Olsen said. Nanook belongs to Scott Swift who lives near the south end of the 24-mile (39-kilometer) trail.

“He’s Alaska’s version of Lassie,” Olsen said.

Nanook regularly takes trips by himself into Chugach State Park and accompanies hikers he meets on the trails to the Eagle River Nature Center, Swift said.

“He’s been doing it for years now,” Swift said.

Swift adopted Nanook about six years ago. The dog does not have rescue training.

“He just does it on his own,” Swift said.

While on one of his mountain adventures a few years ago, Nanook helped a young girl out of the river.

“This is the second time I’ve heard of he has saved someone from drowning in that river,” Swift said.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Indiana police: Orange ‘Trump-shaped ecstasy pills’ seized

PERU, Ind. (AP)—Police say orange-colored ecstasy pills bearing an image resembling President Donald Trump’s face are making the rounds in northern Indiana. Indiana State Police said in a statement that a face is stamped on the front of the illegal pills and the rear bears the words, “great again,” in apparent reference to Trump’s “Make American Great Again” campaign pledge. Friday’s release doesn’t say how many of the pills have been seized. Police say 129 arrests were made during a six-day traffic-stop operation in June. LSD, cocaine and other drugs were also seized. Traffickers sometimes produce uniquely shaped or colored illegal drugs as a marketing technique to distinguish their wares from the competition and encourage buyers to return for more.

Burning bird falls from wire in Germany, torches dry field

BERLIN (AP)—Police say a burning bird falling from an overhead electric line set fire to a field in northern Germany that was parched by dry weather, torching some 7 hectares (17 acres) of land. Police in the Baltic Sea port city of Rostock said witnesses reported that the bird caused

a short-circuit in a railway power line and fell to the ground in flames. The neighboring field then caught fire, and more than 50 firefighters were deployed to tackle the blaze on Tuesday evening. Farmers in northeastern Germany have been complaining of the effects of a persistent lack of rain over the past two months.

Person, ‘feeling guilty,’ pays 44-year-old parking ticket

MINERSVILLE, Pa. (AP)—A person has cleared their conscience by paying a 44-year-old parking ticket. The Minersville, Pennsylvania, Police Department received a letter last week with \$5 and a note inside. The return address was “Feeling guilty, Wayward Road, Anytown, Ca.” Police Chief Michael Combs tells WNEP-TV the note said, “Dear PD, I’ve been carrying this ticket around for 40 plus years. Always intending to pay. Forgive me if I don’t give you my info. With respect, Dave.” The fine for the 1974 parking ticket in the eastern Pennsylvania town was \$2. But the person added \$3 for interest. The same ticket today would be \$20. Combs says the ticket was for a car with Ohio license plates, but the department did not have the technology to track out-of-state vehicles.

Science & Technology

SCIENCE SAYS:

How family separation may affect kids’ brains

CHICAGO (AP)—Doctors have long known that separating families and other traumatic events can damage children’s well-being. More recent research has shed some light on how that may happen: Severe early adversity may cause brain changes and “toxic stress,” resulting in lasting psychological and physical health problems.

A “zero-tolerance” immigration policy announced this spring by the Trump Administration has separated 2,300 children from the adults they were traveling with and sent them to shelters and foster homes across the country, according to the government. The administration has 30 days to reunite families, but it remains unclear whether it can meet that deadline.

Here’s what evidence shows this kind of separation can do and how some experts think immigrant children may be at risk.

THE STRESS RESPONSE

Stress is a normal response to challenging or threatening circumstances that cause the brain to trigger the body’s “fight or flight” mode. Stress hormones and chemicals are released that increase heart rate, blood pressure, alertness and energy levels.

Levels typically return to normal when the threat passes.

When the threat is ongoing — a result of things like war, famine, poverty, natural disasters, family discord or neighborhood violence — the stress system may remain on high alert, sometimes triggering anxiety, behavior problems, stomach aches, sleep problems and other mental and physical symptoms.

Experts believe that contact with a loving, nurturing

parent or caregiver can help children weather stress and reduce chances for lasting ill effects. A recent U.S. study of toddlers from families living in poverty is an example. Youngsters who had a strong parent relationship had lower stress-hormone levels when they arrived at a clinic to get vaccinations than those without that parent buffer.

WHAT’S TOXIC STRESS?

Scientists increasingly believe that persistent stress, particularly when there’s no nurturing parent to help kids cope, can cause stress hormones and internal inflammatory markers to smolder at elevated levels, raising risks for later heart disease, diabetes and other health problems.

The science is not settled, but some studies also have shown that persistent stress may alter brain structure in regions affecting emotions and regulating behavior. Imaging studies have found these regions are smaller than usual in severely traumatized children.

Harvard University neuroscientist Charles Nelson says children younger than 3, with rapidly developing brains, are most at risk for the toxic effects of ongoing stress. In his imaging studies, school-aged Romanian orphans sent to live with foster families had brains with less gray matter than orphans sent to nurturing foster homes before age 2.

WHAT ABOUT MIGRANT CHILDREN?

Central American children arriving with their families at the southern U.S. border have already endured the trauma of leaving their homes, some after violence or other threats, and faced the

additional trauma of an arduous journey north, Nelson said Wednesday. “That may increase their susceptibility to the hazards of separation at the border,” he said.

Nelson said the images he’s seen of U.S. detention centers housing children remind him of his research with Romanian children. In a recent research newsletter, Nelson wrote, “The lessons we learned then taught us that housing children in institution-like settings, with rotating shifts of caregivers and unfavorable ratios of caregivers to children, may cause severe and permanent damage to their minds and bodies.”

“This is what science has taught us about separation,” he said Wednesday.

WHAT DOCTORS SAY

In 2017, a year before the separation policy was announced, the American Academy of Pediatrics advised against holding migrant children in detention centers and said they should receive health care and treatment to “support their well-being.”

The academy and several mental health groups recently denounced the separation policy and cautiously supported last week’s executive order to overturn it. Tuesday’s order from a federal judge mandating that thousands of families be reunited within 30 days is an important step, the academy said in a joint statement with UNICEF USA, but it won’t undo the trauma separated children have already faced, said Academy President Dr. Colleen Kraft.

Even if they are eventually reunited, these families will need “trauma-informed” care to help them cope, Kraft said.

SpaceX delivers AI robot, ice cream, mice to space station

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—The International Space Station got its first robot with artificial intelligence Monday, along with some berries, ice cream and identical brown mice.

SpaceX’s capsule reached the station three days after launching from Cape Canaveral, Florida. Station astronaut Ricky Arnold used a large mechanical arm to grab the Dragon capsule as the

spacecraft soared above Quebec, Canada.

The nearly 6,000-pound (2,700-kilogram) delivery includes the round robot Cimon, pronounced Simon. Slightly bigger than a basketball, the AI robot from the German Space Agency is meant to assist German astronaut Alexander Gerst with science experiments. Cimon’s brain will constantly be updated by IBM so its intelligence — and

role — keep growing.

There are also genetically identical mice for a study of gut bacteria, and super-caffinated coffee aboard the Dragon to go with the fresh blueberries and ice cream.

“Looking forward to some really exciting weeks ahead as we unload the science and get started on some great experiments,” Arnold told Mission Control minutes after snaring the Dragon.

Life & Style

Hard Rock brings back World Burger Tour



KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

Part of Hard Rock Café's World Burger Tour this year are the Vietnamese burger, the Tennessee burger, the India burger, and last year's favourite, the London burger.

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Hard Rock Café has brought back their World Burger Tour so make your way to the Hard Rock Café Saipan today and saddle up for a tastebud trip you won't forget.

Last Tuesday, Hard Rock Café Saipan and Guam regional executive chef Kotwal Meharwan Singh, took the *Saipan Tribune* on a trip to the United Kingdom, Vietnam, India, and the United States through four mouth-watering burgers.

According to Singh, this is the fourth year that Hard Rock has brought back the World Burger Tour because of the high demand of the

community.

"It's about doing something consistently to keep the community interested... the World Tour Burger gives the community something to look forward to," he said.

The concept of the World Burger Tour is to bring Hard Rock Local Legendary burgers inspired by the taste and flavours from Hard Rock Café locations around the world.

This year, Singh decided to offer the Vietnamese burger, the Tennessee burger, the India burger, and last year's favorite, the London burger. Act fast though because these burgers will only be around until July 15.

For individuals who love the unique taste of Vietnamese cuisine, Hard Rock

is offering the Vietnamese burger that is marinated in a tangy house-made Vietnamese glaze topped with sliced cucumbers, pickles, and garnished with fresh cilantro and green onions.

For individuals seeking a more patriotic burger, you can try the Memphis, Tennessee burger seasoned

with a Memphis dry rub topped with pickle slices, Memphis slaw, pulled pork, tangy barbeque sauce, and crispy onions drenched in cheddar cheese.

For the more adventurous tongue, Hard Rock Café also offers the Tandori Spiced Chicken burger from Mumbai, India. The exotic burger

captures the essence of the traditional Tandori chicken dish with a twist. The burger is slathered with a fresh and light mint mayo sauce and is topped with Monterey jack cheese, cucumbers, and iceberg lettuce.

Lastly, Hard Rock decided to bring back the English breakfast burger from

London due to the high demand. The CNMI favourite is topped with breakfast sausage, sliced ham, fresh arugula, grilled Portobello mushrooms, fresh tomato, and a fresh cracked egg.

Visit your local Hard Rock Café today and try out one of these four savory burgers while supplies last.



KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

The Vietnamese Burger in all its glory as part of this year's World Burger Tour hosted by the Hard Rock Café.

IN LOVING MEMORY

†Antonio T. Mendiola

January 17, 1936 - June 30, 2018



In his new life, he now joins his:

Parents : †Vicente C. and †Rosa T. Mendiola

Parents In-Law : †Pedro S. and †Guadalupe B. Blas

Daughter & Son In-Law : †Maria M. and †Joseph D. Dela Rosa

Grand Daughter : †Marisa M. Dela Rosa

He will be forever remembered in the hearts of his:

Wife : Lucia B. Mendiola

Children : **Irene P.** and Antonio C. Deleon Guerrero (Jocelyn)
Charlene M. and Patrick Tenorio
 (Dirk/Monique, Cadez/Trina, Anthony/Nanami,
 Peter Michael, Patrick/Niomi, Ioanis Rasa) John Daryl
 †Joseph D. and †**Maria M.** Dela Rosa
 (Joseph Jr /Adela Dela Rosa,
 Maisy D./ John Green, Antolynn)
Edwin P. Blas
Barbara B. Matagolai and John Tutiy
 Segundo Jr. and **Donnie P. Blas**
 (Matthew, Nadine, Robert)



Brothers, Sisters, & In-Laws:

†Ignacio T. and Joaquina T. Mendiola
 (Casey, Tia and Danny Reginald)
 Ricardo T. / †Mariana K. Mendiola
 †Vicente and Delfina M. Soram
 †Manuel and †Delgadina B. Matagolai
 †Vicente and †Maria B. Manibusan

†Jose and †Teresita B. Diaz
 †Jesus B. and †Soledad A. Blas
 Alexandro and Victorina B. Cabrera
 †Eugene and Casilda B. Repeki
 Augustin and Asinta B. Pangelinan
 Leonora A. Blas and Anthony Macaranas

He will be missed by numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Daily mass is being offered at 6am at Mount Carmel Cathedral. On Saturday, July 07, 2018, his remains will be escorted from the CHCC chapel to the Mount Carmel Cathedral at 12:30 p.m. Responso and viewing will take place upon arrival. Mass of Christian will be celebrated at 3:00 p.m., followed by interment services at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Your prayers and thoughts are greatly appreciated.

Thank You – Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Lucia B. Mendiola, Children, & Family

Lakeith Stanfield: An actor at home in the surreal



AP
In this image released by Annapurna Pictures, Lakeith Stanfield, left, as Cassius Green and Tessa Thompson as Detroit star in "Boots Riley's 'Sorry to Bother You,'" an Annapurna Pictures release. The film opens Friday, July 6, 2018.

NEW YORK (AP)—The weirder it gets, the more Lakeith Stanfield looks right at home.

It was Stanfield, as the bodysnatched Andrew Hayworth, personifying the nightmare of Jordan Peele's "Get Out." In Donald Glover's "Atlanta," his cosmically lackadaisical pot-smoking philosopher Darius is the epitome of the show's free-wheeling surrealism. And in Boots Riley's comic and caustic social satire "Sorry to Bother You," Stanfield is the entry-level telemarketer Cassius ("Cash") Green, whose swift rise introduces him to a darkly dystopian world.

"I do find I'm a little more comfortable than the average person in strange situations, which is probably why I'm an actor," says Stanfield. "I've been in some strange situations. Like orgies. And I was in an orgy in this movie. It wasn't strange to me at all. I had no reservations about getting naked. I was supposed to be naked in this, full frontal."

He grins. "Maybe I am, I don't know."

Since his acclaimed feature-

film debut in 2013's "Short Term 12," Stanfield, 26, has become one of the most arresting, unpredictable, and in-demand actors in Hollywood. He has played Jimmie Lee Jackson ("Selma"), Snoop Dogg ("Straight Outta Compton"), Miles Davis ("Miles Ahead") and, um, Chandler, in Jay-Z's "Friends"-style music video "Moonlight." In even his soberer parts, Stanfield has a disarmingly laid-back, unflappable presence, like his antennae is tuned to a different frequency than everyone else.

Glover, the "Atlanta" creator, vividly remembers first meeting Stanfield.

"He barely talked to me," Glover said in an email. "He was not concerned with getting the job at all. He was already living in a different dimension than the rest of us."

"Sorry to Bother You," which opens Friday on the heels of ecstatic reviews, Stanfield may have found the best feature-film vehicle yet for his particular dimension. The movie is a years-long passion project for Riley, the Bay-area hip-hop pioneer and activist, who along the way also spoke

to Glover and Peele about the role. It's a wild, anti-capitalist romp through workplace America, all seen through the dazed eyes of Stanfield.

"What holds the movie together—which is why I picked Lakeith—is there's all this crazy stuff happening but you have to believe that character," says Riley. "If it's an actor that's like, 'Oh, this is how I show I'm scared. This is how I show I'm confused'—it wouldn't work. Lakeith doesn't care about what his face looks like. He just gets to that emotion."

In the film, Cassius is catapulted into overnight success once he begins using what an older employee played by Danny Glover terms is "your white voice." Stanfield's rise, though, has been predicated on remaining himself.

"It's a hard thing to be yourself and be available," Stanfield said in a recent interview in Soho. "It's much easier to use the white voice, which I've also done. But at some point, I become exhausted with it and I have to say what's on my mind and do what I feel. Part of that is the reason why peo-

ple put cameras on me."

Stanfield has previously channeled into music his underprivileged upbringing in the Southern California desert city of Victorville. In each of the 2015 music videos for his hip-hop duo Moors, Stanfield (who recently apologized for a freestyle with homophobic lyrics) returns to an image of drowning on the seafloor.

"At the time I made those, I felt smothered by circumstances," says Stanfield. "There was a lot of family drama at the time. I watched a family member that I love try to kill themselves by suffocation. I was writing from that place. The reason why you haven't seen very much follow-up to that kind of material is because, luckily, I haven't been in those kinds of situations."

Drawn into acting by a high-school drama class, Stanfield came to Los Angeles at 18. He recalls spending hours staring at Echo Lake in between auditions, with nothing else to do.

"I was homeless. And I was hungry sometimes," Stanfield says. "But I didn't really view it as hard. I always kept a posi-

tive idea about it. I remember being in my car listening to Jimi Hendrix and eating McDonald's and being like: One day, I'm going to remember this moment. And I still do."

Stanfield's breakthrough came via Destin Daniel Cretton's college short film "Short Term 12," which five years later became the feature about a foster care facility for at-risk teens. By then, Stanfield was in Sacramento working at a marijuana factory. His character, who gradually comes out of his shell, mirrored Stanfield's own journey. But any reticence is now long gone.

"I always want to expand," says Stanfield. "I can learn something from everyone and everything and hopefully I get to play a dog that is also a cat, that is also a man and a woman and a flower so I can just be all versions of life."

"Playing a flower would be awesome," adds Stanfield, smiling, before referencing his "Atlanta" character. "It's a very Darius thing to say."

Exactly where Darius ends and Stanfield begins can be difficult to define. A lot of Darius' eccentric serenity comes directly from Stanfield, who improvises much of Darius' non-sequitur musing. "In some ways, he is

me," says Stanfield.

"I think he's not acting. Acting is pretending. And Keith doesn't seem to pretend much," explains Glover. "Darius, like Lakeith, is living in the now. I can honestly say Lakeith is the only person in the world I know who could play Darius."

There's some method to Stanfield's madness, even if the method is the sort that worries directors. Riley discovered that himself, when he realized Stanfield didn't know his lines as shooting approached on "Sorry to Bother You."

"And he's like: 'I don't usually do that until right before,'" says Riley. "His brain is still going through a process of finding the words. It might just be a millisecond more, but it's not that polished thing. That makes the lines more real for him. That's what all the fantastical elements and the absurdity rely on."

Last summer, Stanfield had a baby with his girlfriend, actress Xosha Roquemore. He has his biggest budget film yet coming in October: "The Girl in the Spider's Web." In a since-deleted Instagram post, Stanfield noted of the largely Swedish cast: "I'm the only black person in this film."

Show on slavery prompts artist to quit Montreal Jazz Fest

OTTAWA, Ontario (AP)—American singer-songwriter Moses Sumney canceled his Tuesday night performance at the Montreal International Jazz Festival, protesting the event's ties to a show on slavery performed by whites.

The black entertainer criticized the festival for supporting "SLAV," a theatrical production on black slavery that he said constitutes cultural appropriation. Instead of performing at the festival, he played two back-to-back shows Tuesday night at a Montreal club venue.

"SLAV," directed by Rob-

ert Lepage and starring Betty Bonifassi, sparked protests in Montreal last week, with its critics arguing it appropriates black culture. In the production, the predominantly white cast dresses as cotton pickers and poor field workers and sings old slave songs.

"Their songs are taken from them by white people and performed to rooms full of other white people for high ticket prices," Sumney wrote in a letter to festival organizers that he also published on his Tumblr blog. "I much would have preferred seeing actual black Americans sing their

own slave songs."

Bonifassi told the Montreal Gazette last week that she didn't "feel badly at all" about the production. "I don't see color. To me, it doesn't exist, physically or in music," she said.

In his letter to the festival, Sumney criticized Bonifassi's comments, saying that "the solution to racism is not to erase race altogether."

He also compared "SLAV" to blackface minstrel shows. "The only thing missing is black paint," he wrote.

When contacted by The Associated Press, the jazz fes-

tival's media relations director, Greg Kitzler, said, "We respect his decision and hope Moses Sumney will perform at the festival in a near future."

Kitzler declined to comment on whether the festival would continue supporting "SLAV," but added that a press release planned for Wednesday would offer clarification.

The play is scheduled to run until July 14 as part of the festival's 39th edition. Thousands of musical acts have performed at the fest over the years, including Stevie Wonder, Aretha Franklin, B.B. King and Diana Ross.

Boston Symphony heading back outdoors to Tanglewood

BOSTON (AP)—The Boston Symphony Orchestra is returning to its seasonal home at Tanglewood.

Music director Andris Nelsons will conduct works by Mozart and Tchaikovsky as the renowned orchestra kicks off its 2018 outdoor season on Friday evening at the western Massachusetts venue.

Superstar pianist Lang Lang will play Mozart's Piano Con-

certo No. 24 in C minor.

This summer's season, which runs through Sept. 2, continues the BSO's yearlong homage to Leonard Bernstein.

The Massachusetts-born conductor and composer would have turned 100 on Aug. 25. He died in 1990 at age 72 in New York City.

Bernstein was a fixture at the annual summer music festival at Tanglewood for half a century.

Sister-in-law says producing Houston doc hits close to home

NEW YORK (AP)—Whitney Houston's mother had no clue about allegations that her son and superstar daughter were molested as children until the making of the new documentary "Whitney," says the film's executive producer.

Patricia Houston, the sister-in-law of Whitney, is responsible for getting the film, out Friday, to screen. Directed by Kevin Macdonald, "Whitney" paints an intimate portrait of the Grammy-winning pop queen and movie star through interviews with her brothers, her mother, friends, and behind-the-scenes footage. Houston's regal image over the decades was eroded by erratic behavior due to her drug use; she died in 2012, on the eve of the Grammys, after being discovered unresponsive



AP
Whitney Houston performs on "Good Morning America" in 2009.

in a hotel bathtub. She was 48.

It's the second documentary on Houston: "Whitney: Can I Be Me" was released earlier this year.

Patricia Houston, wife of Gary Garland-Houston, said it was difficult making "Whitney" because it hit so close to home—and because she was the one who had to tell Cissy Houston not only that there were abuse allegations, but they would be in the film.

"It was deeply a revelation

for her. You think about her, and it being a bit overbearing for her to hear—and her kids not telling her. That's pretty tough to have to deal with," said Houston.

Dee Dee Warwick, the niece of Cissy Houston and sister to Dionne Warwick, was the alleged abuser. The alleged incidents took place when Gary and Whitney were between the ages of 7 and 9 and Cissy was touring. Warwick, who was 18 years older than Whitney Houston, died in 2008.

The documentary suggests that the sexual abuse endured by the children was a significant contributor to their strug-

gles with drugs as adults.

"I don't think you can explain anyone's life from one particular event that's happened to them. But I think that it's certainly fair to say that it's maybe, in my opinion, the major contributor to Whitney's unhappiness," MacDonald said. "That and the fact that she never talked about it, and that nobody in the family talked about this and clearly it happened as you'd learned in the film."

MacDonald says the secrets in Houston's life took their toll on the Grammy-winning singer. He cites a clip in the film shot in the mid-2000s that shows her in conflict.

Paris Jackson gets restraining order against alleged stalker

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Michael Jackson's daughter Paris Jackson has been granted a temporary restraining order against a man she says has been stalking her.

The order granted Tuesday in a Los Angeles court says 23-year-old Nicholas Stevens must stay away from Jackson at least until July 24.

The 20-year-old Jackson says

in court documents that she and a bandmate were leaving her recording studio June 13 when Stevens, who she does not know, appeared and said he'd waited for her last week for 15 hours.

Jackson says Stevens refused to leave, said he was



Jackson

"stalking her," mentioned a shotgun and said "by midnight it will all be over."

Then July 1, Stevens tweeted at Jackson that he was her "soulmate."

No current phone number for Stevens could be found to ask

for comment.

UK police probing 6 assault claims against Kevin Spacey

LONDON (AP)—British police are investigating six claims of sexual assault or assault by Academy Award-winning actor Kevin Spacey, three more than previously disclosed.

British media reported earlier this year that London's Metropolitan Police force was investigating three allegations against the former "House of Cards" star.

Police in Britain don't name suspects until they are charged. Asked about Spacey, the force did not identify him

by name but said Wednesday that detectives had received a total of five allegations of sexual assault and one of assault against a man.

Five of the alleged offenses took place in London between 1996 and 2008, and the sixth in the western English city of Gloucester in 2013.

Spacey, a two-time Oscar winner, has been accused of sexual assault and inappropriate behavior by numerous men since American actor Anthony Rapp alleged last

year that Spacey had climbed on top of him on a bed when Rapp was 14 and Spacey 26.

After Rapp's allegation, London's Old Vic theater, where Spacey was artistic director for 11 years until 2015, launched an investigation into its former leader. The theater said in November that it had received 20 allegations of inappropriate behavior by Spacey, and had encouraged 14 of the complainants to go to the police.

NEW YORK (AP)—Judging errors cast widespread confusion over Joey "Jaws" Chestnut's record-setting 11th title at the annual Nathan's Famous July Fourth hot dog eating contest.

Chestnut took home the Mustard Belt after downing 74 franks and buns in 10 minutes—two more than he did last year. Second-place finisher Michelle Lesco, of Tucson, Arizona. Lesco chomped down 28 wieners and buns.

Thousands of attendees braved 83-degree temperatures and a heat index of 91 degrees to witness the annual

But longtime announcer George Shea tells The Associated Press he noticed in real time that jurists measuring Chestnut's and Cincotti's intake weren't counting from two plates stacked with franks that the eaters were drawing from. The under-counted tally was then displayed on live TV.

Shea says both Chestnut and Cincotti were adamant about their scores, which were certified by Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez.

He says new judges will be used next year.

Miki Sudo (MIHK'-ee SOO'-doh) downed 37 franks to win her fifth straight title in the women's competition of the

annual Nathan's Famous July Fourth hot dog eating contest.

The Las Vegas competitor fell short of the 41 hot dogs she consumed last year but still beat out second-place finisher Michelle Lesco, of Tucson, Arizona. Lesco chomped down 28 wieners and buns.

Thousands of attendees braved 83-degree temperatures and a heat index of 91 degrees to witness the annual

July Fourth competition on the Coney Island boardwalk.

Ten-time winner Joey "Jaws" Chestnut will confront 20 other men during the men's competition later Wednesday for the coveted Mustard Belt.

Sudo was a fan favorite, drawing big cheers from the crowd during her performance, which was slightly delayed after she requested new water to soak her buns.



AP
Reigning champion Joey Chestnut, center, celebrates with Master of ceremonies George Shea, right, and Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez, after winning the men's competition of the Nathan's Famous Fourth of July hot dog eating contest in the final seconds of the competition, Wednesday, July 4, 2018, in New York's Coney Island.

Son strives to revive faded memories of mom long gone

DEAR ABBY: I'm 52. My mom died when I was 11. It wasn't until I reached my mid-20s that I realized I have no memories of her, and few memories of my childhood before I was 11. Dad and I lived a few hours away from family, and after Mom passed, no one spoke about her much. I imagine that was because it was painful. She was only 29.

I never cried over her death, and I don't remember missing her as a child or teenager. There are only a handful of photos of her and a couple of passed-down stories. I understand that people block memories of traumatic events and things they don't want to remember. I remember the night it happened in detail, but not the memory of her. I have seen a few psychiatrists at different times during the course of my life to deal with stress and daily life issues, and while they were aware of my background, we never really got into this.

For some reason it's bothering me more and more now. I want to remember my mother. When I ask her friends and relatives about her, I get general answers -- she was a nice person, very loving and crafty, etc. How does someone get their memories back? I've heard hypnosis can help, but I'm not sure. Do you have any advice?

SON LEFT BEHIND

DEAR SON: Many people are reluctant to talk about

family members who have passed on because they are afraid it will be painful for the listener. Perhaps if you approached your relatives and explained why you are asking for more details, it might jog some memories. However, if that doesn't bear fruit, then talking with a mental health professional about the fact that this is increasingly bothering you would be a good idea. That person can recommend hypnosis if it's appropriate.

DEAR ABBY: I am a divorced 53-year-old woman. My children are grown, and I have a good career in HR and payroll. It's not my dream job, though. I applied to and was accepted into a Master of Architecture program, but I just found out they will accept only 12 credits from my associate's degree, which means I will need five years of full-time college to achieve my dream, while working full-time, of course.

I'll be 58 when I graduate and probably should be planning for retirement, not taking on \$100,000 in student loans. Should I abandon this dream? Have I run out of time to take on such a lofty goal? Or should I just sit back and relax and travel now that my kids are grown? By the way, my retirement goal was age 72.

NOT SURE IN MICHIGAN

DEAR NOT SURE: What you are contemplating takes a

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



great deal of stamina. Some individuals in their 50s are up for the challenge, others not so much. Before you commit, talk to a guidance counselor at the school to explore what opportunities might be available to an older graduate with no work experience in the field.

Would you still plan to retire at 72? Your student loans could take many more years to pay off if you don't quickly become a high-earning architect, so consider your next move carefully and receive as much unbiased counsel as you can before making a final decision.

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Attorney for Plaintiff, Bank of Guam

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff,	Civil Action No. 16-0154
vs.	NOTICE OF AUCTION ON THE MORTGAGED PROPERTY
JOSEPH O. TAITANO and DEBORAH DLG. TAITANO, Defendants.	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 18th day of May, 2018, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **10th day of August, 2018 at 10 a.m.**, at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being in As Lito on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot 361-2-2.

Lot 361-2-2 (formerly part of Lot 361, TD 122), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2031/01, the original of which was recorded 02 March 2004 as Document No. 04-457 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

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DATED this 06th day of June, 2018.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

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Federer, Serena advance; Wozniacki out

LONDON (AP)— Roger Federer and Serena Williams are making it look easy at Wimbledon— again.

Caroline Wozniacki is heading home early—again.

Federer and Serena cruised into the third round with straight-sets victories on Wednesday, looking at home on the Centre Court where they have won 15 titles between them.

However, Wozniacki still can't seem to get comfortable at the All England Club—especially when there's a swarm of bugs flying around her head.

The Australian Open champion went out before the third round for the fourth time in seven years, losing 6-4, 1-6, 7-5 to Ekaterina Makarova of Russia after complaining to the chair umpire about the insects that invaded No. 1 court during the second set.

No such problems for Federer, who won 35 straight points on his serve on route to beating Lukas Lacko of Slovakia 6-4, 6-4, 6-1.

After serving out for the first set, Federer didn't drop a single point on his serve in the second and kept that streak going until he was 30-0 up at 4-1 in the third— when Lacko finally sent a backhand winner down the line.

It was another dominant display by the eight-time champion, who lost just nine of 61 points on his serve in total and broke Lacko five times, including with a forehand winner to close out the match.

"On certain days it goes better than others," Federer said. "Sometimes your serve matches up better against cer-



tain players."

Williams was nearly as good, losing just five of 32 points on her first serve in a 6-1, 6-4 win over Viktoriya Tomova. It was her 16th

straight victory at Wimbledon, although she missed last year's tournament while pregnant.

Wozniacki is still waiting to get past the round of 16 for the first time, despite fighting

back from 5-1 down in the third set and saving four match points at 5-3. But she was broken again in the final game, becoming the fifth of the top eight women's seeds to lose

Switzerland's Roger Federer returns the ball to Slovakia's Lukas Lacko during their men's singles match on the third day of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, Wednesday July 4, 2018.

before the third round.

Meanwhile, the Fourth of July is not the day for Americans to fluff their lines and the Williams sisters paid due homage to the celebratory script when coming through their second-round matches.

Not without an early struggle in the case of Venus against Romanian qualifier, Alexandra Dulgheru, to indicate that this soap opera storyline of success, illness, marriage, birth, return, renewal and defiance of age shows no signs of approaching its final episode.

The sisters are contenders again. Serena prevailed in straight sets against another who had ploughed through the qualifying process. As for Venus she recovered from the loss of the first set to overcome the doughty Dulgheru

4-6, 6-0, 6-1.

As a measure of the impact these two huge personalities have had on the sport, the burghers of the All England Club saw fit for the first time in 25 years to place more women's than men's matches (11-10) on the six Wimbledon show

courts. Serena was on Centre Court for the first time this year and Venus headed the roster on Court No 1.

"I was really overjoyed when I saw the schedule," said Venus. "We have a lot of equal play on the main courts in the three other slams. It was fantastic to see Wimbledon follow suit and hopefully for that to continue, to have equal for men and women. It is wonderful to see women rise."

In the first round, she started by conceding a tiebreaker against 58th-ranked Johanna Larsson before taking 12 of the last 15 games.

"Ideally it's two sets," Venus said. "If it's not two sets, then go to Plan B."

In the men's draw, 13th-seeded Milos Raonic and No. 11 Sam Querrey also advanced in straight sets.



McIlroy in 'no panic' despite no majors victory in 4 years



IRELAND (AP)—Northern Ireland's Rory McIlroy says there is no "panic" despite not winning a major for four years.

McIlroy, 29, missed the cut at the US Open three weeks ago, which extended the gap since his last of his four majors at the 2014 US PGA.

"Nothing is going to change in my life whether I win a major or not," said McIlroy on the eve of the Irish Open.

"I'd be disappointed if I didn't but I don't panic. It doesn't keep me up at night."

McIlroy had high hopes of completing the career Grand Slam as he started in the final group in this year's Masters, only for his challenge to fizzle out as Patrick Reed clinched victory.

An opening round of 80 at the US Open then resulted in the former world number one missing the cut in the season's second major at Shinnecock Hills as Brooks Koepka successfully defended the title.

"I was proud of myself just to get into the final group at the Masters. I didn't have a good Sunday," said McIlroy, who is ranked eighth in the world and will attempt to win his second Open Championship at Car-

noustie in two weeks.

"The US Open was the US Open. I've got two more chances to win this year to hopefully play myself into contention."

"My goal this year, it wasn't to win majors. It was just to give myself a chance and to put myself into positions to see how I fare."

"I did that at Augusta. I felt like I learned a bit from it and then hopefully going into Carnoustie and [the US PGA at] Bellerive, I can put myself in similar positions."

McIlroy believes the hard and fast conditions that this year's Irish Open will be played in at Ballyliffin in County Donegal will offer him and other Open Championship hopefuls.

"Obviously it's a great event in its own right but there's elements to this golf course that if you can hit the shots here, you should be able to do it at Carnoustie as well," McIlroy said.

"I haven't played here in 12 years and I'd sort of forgotten how good it was and how beautiful the area was. "It's a tough track. You can't put it in bunkers off the tee. You have to hit fairways. The greens are getting firm. It's getting bouncy out there."

Hornets, Nuggets interested in Parker



SAN ANTONIO (AP)—There has been plenty of speculation about where Kawhi Leonard will end up ahead of the 2018-19 season, but it's not just the frustrated star forward who could leave the Spurs this summer.

Tony Parker is on the market as an unrestricted free agent, and he's already receiving significant interest from multiple teams. Parker averaged only 7.7 points and 3.5 assists per game last season behind starting point guard Dejounte Murray, but he still holds value as a veteran backup capable of running an offense.

The Hornets and Nuggets each have solid starting options in Kemba Walker and Jamal Murray, respectively, but Parker could still function as a playmaker for the second unit in Charlotte or Denver. In

terms of salary, the Hornets have the non-taxpayer mid-level exception available (\$8.6 million) while the Nuggets have the taxpayer mid-level exception (\$5.3 million).

There are no guarantees Parker wants out of San Antonio, though, and if the Spurs can keep one of the franchise's greatest player at a reasonable cost, they will certainly do it.

Meanwhile, in Cleveland, Collin Sexton badly wanted to play with LeBron James. His first season will be much different than he hoped.

Sexton signed his rookie contract on Wednesday with the Cleveland Cavaliers, who are taking their first steps since James announced he's leaving to sign a four-year, \$154 million contract with the Los Angeles Lakers.

When the Cavs drafted Sexton with the No. 8 pick last month, the Alabama guard in-

stantly pleaded with James to re-sign with the Cavs.

"LeBron, let's do it," Sexton said in a TV interview moments after he was picked. "I've seen you needed a few extra pieces this past season, and let's do it. Let's go back to the Finals."

For now, Sexton will have to settle for a four-year contract that could be worth \$20.2 million over its length. Per NBA rules, Sexton can make a maximum of \$4.1 million next season. The value is based on where he was selected. His contract is guaranteed for two years, with the Cavs holding options for the last two years.

Cleveland made the announcement on Wednesday, a holiday treat for the team's fans still grappling with their emotions after James left for the second time in eight years.

On Tuesday, the giant billboard of James that became a downtown landmark, and to

some a symbol of the city's rebirth, was removed.

The team is hoping Sexton can help them recover from losing James, who led the Cavs to four straight NBA Finals and a championship in 2016. Sexton averaged 19.2 points as a freshman and played his best in big games, leading the Crimson Tide to its first NCAA Tournament appearance since 2012.

Now that he's under contract, the 19-year-old can't be traded for 30 days. However, the Cavs are likely to hang on to Sexton after they spent all last season in need of a point guard after trading All-Star Kyrie Irving last summer to Boston.

Sexton will wear No. 2, Irving's jersey number with Cleveland.

Sexton is on Cleveland's summer league roster and is expected to play in games in Las Vegas later this week.

Red Sox complete 3-game sweep of slumping Nationals



WASHINGTON (AP)— Jackie Bradley Jr. drove in two runs, Eduardo Rodriguez struck out six in six innings and the Boston Red Sox beat the Washington Nationals 3-0 on Wednesday to complete a three-game sweep.

Rodriguez (10-3) allowed three hits and walked one. Craig Kimbrel worked the ninth for his 26th save in 28 chances, finishing a six-hitter.

The Nationals (42-43) have lost five in a row to fall below .500 this late in the season for the first time since being 60-61 on Aug. 21, 2015. The preseason NL East favorites held a players-only meeting after the game.

A throwing error by Adam Eaton on Bradley's sacrifice fly and a wild pitch by Ryan Madson (2-4) in the seventh inning contributed to Washington's 17th loss in 22 games.

Nationals starter Erick Fedde left one batter into the second inning with right shoulder stiffness. Manager Davey Martinez said Fedde was scheduled to have an MRI.

Yankees 6, Braves 2

In New York, Giancarlo Stanton hit a three-run homer and CC Sabathia pitched six effective innings, leading the Yankees to the victory.

Yankees rookie second baseman Gleyber Torres left in the fifth inning because of tightness in his right hip and was placed on the 10-day disabled list with a right hip strain.

Aaron Judge and Kyle Higashioka also homered for New York. Higashioka became the ninth player since 1920 whose first three hits were home runs.

Cardinals 8, Diamondbacks 4

In Phoenix, Yadier Molina and Yairo Munoz homered, Miles



Mikolas threw six strong innings and St. Louis broke loose late to beat Arizona and take two of three from the first-place Diamondbacks.

Molina's three-run shot on the first pitch from reliever Fernando Salas highlighted a five-run seventh inning after Arizona had nursed a 2-1 lead through six. Tommy Pham drove in three Cardinals runs with a double and two singles.

Astros 5, Rangers 4, 10 innings

In Arlington, Evan Gattis drove in Jose Altuve with a sacrifice fly in the 10th inning, sending AL West-leading Houston to the road win.

Altuve stopped a 0-for-13 slide with a one-out single in the 10th. Chris Martin (1-2) then hit Yuli Gurriel with a pitch before an errant pickoff throw allowed both runners to move up. Gattis followed with a fly ball to right-center.

Dodgers 6, Pirates 4

In Los Angeles, Rich Hill

earned his first win in three months, Yasmani Grandal and Chris Taylor drove in three runs apiece, and the Dodgers swept the Pirates for the second straight year.

The Dodgers outscored the Pirates 31-8 in the three-game series while winning their fourth in a row overall.

Cubs 5, Tigers 2

In Chicago, Javier Baez stole home, Willson Contreras hit a tiebreaking homer and the Cubs earned their sixth straight victory.

Conditions at Wrigley Field favored the long ball, with a game-time temperature of 92 degrees, a heat index of 102 and the wind blowing out.

Athletics 4, Padres 2

In Oakland, Stephen Piscotty doubled three times and drove in three runs, powering Oakland to the win.

Khris Davis added an RBI single for the A's, who have won 14 of 17 to move a season-high nine games over .500.

Phillies 4, Orioles 1

In Philadelphia, Aaron Nola stuck out nine in seven innings, Nick Williams hit a two-run homer and the Phillies beat the Orioles to sweep a two-game interleague series.

Nola (11-2) gave up one run and seven hits to win his fifth straight decision. Victor Arano tossed two innings for his first career save.

Mets 6, Blue Jays 2

In Toronto, Todd Frazier hit a two-run homer for the Mets, and Brandon Nimmo reached base three times.

Frazier gave the Mets the lead with a drive to center field off Marcus Stroman (1-6) in a five-run fifth inning.

Brewers 3, Twins 2

In Milwaukee, Nate Orf hit a solo homer in Milwaukee's two-run seventh after going hitless in his first seven major league at-bats.

Brad Miller homered to right-center off Jose Berrios (8-7) to lead off the bottom of

the seventh for the Brewers. Two batters later, Orf sent a 2-2 curveball down the left-field line for a two-run lead.

Angels 7, Mariners 4

In Seattle, Kole Calhoun hit a two-run homer, helping the Angels snap the Mariners' eight-game winning streak.

Calhoun had three hits and three RBI. Garrett Richards (5-4) got the win in his return from the disabled list, allowing three runs in 5 1/3 innings.

Rockies 1, Giants 0

In Denver, Chris Iannetta homered in the seventh, Tyler Anderson pitched eight stellar innings and the Rockies beat the Giants for the three-game series sweep.

It was the first 1-0 game at Coors Field since June 12, 2010.

Anderson (6-3) tied a season high with nine strikeouts. Wade Davis worked a shaky ninth for his 25th save.

Andrew Suarez (3-5) pitched seven crisp innings,

AP
Boston Red Sox second baseman Eduardo Nunez waits for the ball to make the tag on Washington Nationals' Michael Taylor, who was out at second base on the steal attempt, during the second inning of an interleague baseball game at Nationals Park Wednesday, July 4, 2018, in Washington.

but San Francisco managed just three hits.

Indians 3, Royals 2

In Kansas City, Trevor Bauer pitched effectively into the eighth inning, and Cleveland finished a three-game sweep.

Michael Brantley had an early RBI double and the Indians scored all their runs in the first three innings on only one hit. Bauer (8-6) struck out eight in 7 2/3 innings.

Reds 7, White Sox 4

In Cincinnati, starting pitcher Sal Romano dropped down a suicide squeeze during Cincinnati's six-run fourth inning.

Jesse Winker and Jose Peraza each had a two-run single during the big rally, and Scooter Gennett also singled in a run. The Reds overcame Daniel Palka's third home run in two games to win the three-game series and complete a 4-3 homestand.

Marlins 3, Rays 0

In Miami, Jose Urena and three relievers combined on a four-hitter, and Miami shook off the hangover from a 16-inning loss.

J.T. Riddle singled, tripled and homered.

The teams took the field barely 12 hours after the Rays won a 5 1/2-hour marathon.

Urena struck out six in five innings.



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Table tennis team withdraws from Micro Games

By ROSELYN B. MONROY
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REPORTER

The CNMI National Table Tennis Team pulled out from the 2018 Micronesian Games with less than two weeks before the quadrennial event in Yap kicks off.

Northern Marianas Table Tennis Federation president Ted Deleon Guerrero cited the group's difficulty in securing travel documents and monetary problems as reasons for their withdrawal. The federation initially

committed to send eight athletes and two coaches to the Micro

Games, which will kick off on July 15 and will run until July 27.

Deleon Guerrero added their members are not U.S. passport holders and they were not able to secure documents to pass through Guam for a connecting flight to Yap.

"It is regrettable that the Northern Marianas Table Tennis Federation will not



be able to participate in the Micronesian Game. We

tried to apply for the I-90 special visa for travel, but unfortunately the NMTTF can't afford the application fee that is \$575 and \$80 for biometrics per person," Deleon Guerrero said in a letter sent to Northern Marianas Sports Association president Michael White last Wednesday.

"The NMTTF will return any funds allocated for the

Micronesian Games," he added.

NMSA gave \$500 to each participant (coaches and officials alike) in the Micronesian Games. Airfare costs for the trip to Yap is between \$700 and \$800, while per diem is \$35.

With the table tennis out, Team Marianas is left to compete in eight events—baseball, basketball (men's and women's), indoor volleyball (men's), athletics, spearfishing, ocean swim, weightlifting, and canoe

(men's and women's).

Meanwhile, NMSA is requiring all federations send-

ing teams/athletes to Yap to settle their per diem payments on or before July 14.

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player was pitted against another Chinese in Xiaoyan Xue yesterday and prevailed anew after only two sets, 6-1, 6-3, to move two victories away from ruling the ITF Juniors ranking tournament.

In the semifinals, Lee will be up against No. 5 and China's Jingyi Wang, who worked out a 6-3, 1-6, 6-4 triumph over No. 4 Jennifer Kida of the U.S. to earn the right to challenge the CNMI player for the finals berth at the top half of the draw.

At the lower half, the semis pairing will feature the unranked Japanese Kamami Hayashige versus No. 12 Manami Ukita. Yahashige started her upset run in the tournament with a 6-0, 6-2 win over Australia's Elena Micic and then followed it up by booting out No. 11 Jing Yang of China, 6-2, 6-1. The eventual semifinalist also topped No. 6 and compatriot Mio Kozaki, 6-0, 6-1, to make it to the quarterfinals where she pulled off an upset against the No. 2 seed Wing Ka

Lin of Hong Kong, 6-1, 7-5.

Ukita, on the other hand, advanced to the semifinals after ousting New Caledonia's Clara Cwajgenbaum, 7-6 (6), 6-4; No. 7 and New Zealand's Elys Saguil-Ventura, 6-4, 7-5; and fellow unranked Japanese Minami Tani, 7-6 (5), 6-2. Tani earlier in the first round defeated the CNMI's Isabel Heras, 6-2, 6-1, while another Commonwealth bet—Conatsu Kaga—also dropped her opener to Australia's Tama Bajagic, 1-6, 2-6.

In the boys singles, Robbie Schorr made it all the way to the third round. He drew a bye in the opening round and then swept Australia's Stefan Milenkovic, 6-2, 6-3, to set up a battle for a quarterfinals ticket against No. 1 seed Mann Shah of India. Shah went on to eliminate Schorr with his 6-0, 6-0 win and also gained a semis entry following a 6-2, 3-6, 6-2 triumph over No. 7 Kelvin Du of Australia.

The CNMI's other bet in the boys singles—Ken Song—bowed to Australia's Bryce Robinson in the first round, 1-6, 3-6.

2018 Toyota C-HR hole-in-one prize at HANMI Classic

One lucky golfer could walk away with a 2018 Toyota C-HR being offered by Atkins Kroll Toyota as a hole-in-one prize at the 17th Annual HANMI Charity Golf Classic that will be held on July 14 on the east course of the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

"The annual HANMI tournament is always a good mix of solid old-timers and up-and-coming new blood," said tournament chair Tyrell Pauling of Hyatt Regency Saipan.

"The C-HR invites drivers to 'color outside the lines,' and we know a golfer of any age would be ecstatic win this vehicle. A big thank you to AK Toyota for signing on again this year as a sponsor of the HANMI Charity Golf Classic.

The tournament is also offering several other hole-in-prizes, including \$5,000 cash sponsored by Pacifica Insurance, \$20,000 cash from LT Travel and the Tinian Mayor's



Office, \$20,000 cash sponsored by Century Tours, \$5,000 cash sponsored by Century Insurance, \$2,500 cash sponsored by Traders Insurance, a car from Triple J Motors, and an airline ticket from Asiana Airlines.

The early bird tournament fee is \$120 and includes green fee and the awards banquet. The fee increases to \$140 after the early bird deadline today at 5pm. For an additional \$30, players may also compete for optional play

prizes, including accurate drive circle, nearest to the pin, longest drive, shortest drive, and accurate driveline. The tournament will start at 7am.

Registration forms are available at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Coral Ocean Golf Resort and at www.facebook.com/HANMI670. The tournament is open to the first 144 paid registrants. (PR)

FRANCE

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then batted away.

"It's flattering to be the second one since Pele," said Mbappe, born in France to a father from Cameroon and a mother from Algeria. "But let's put things in perspective. Pele's another category."

This is France's seventh quarterfinal and its fourth in the last six World Cups dating back to 1998 and the famous side led by Deschamps, Patrick Vieira, Zinedine Zidane and Thierry Henry—the so-called "Rainbow Team" from a multicultural France.

"In a World Cup you have the top-level players," said Mbappe, who plays for Paris Saint-Germain. "So it's an opportunity to show what you can do and what your abilities are. There is no better place than a World Cup."

After three lackluster games in group play, France was electric in its most recent match, particularly in the second half when it cut up Argentina's plodding defense. Five of France's starters in the first group match had never played in the World Cup, including Mbappe.

"You need some patience," Deschamps said.

Deschamps has compared playing Uruguay to facing Peru, which narrowly lost to France 1-0 in group play on a goal by Mbappe.

He termed Uruguay "solid and aggressive" in a French television interview, adding:

"These are not qualities displayed by Argentina."

The match will showcase several cross-border friendships.

Griezmann plays at Atletico Madrid where his teammates are Uruguayan defenders Godin and Jose Maria Gimenez. Godin is the godfather of Griezmann's daughter.

While Godin and Gimenez will try to stop Griezmann, Uruguay striker Luis Suarez will be opposing Barcelona teammate Samuel Umtiti.

"I've always joked ... that I wanted to face Umtiti at a World Cup," Suarez said. "And it came true."

Suarez's running mate, Edinson Cavani, scored both goals in the knockout win over Cristiano Ronaldo and Portugal but is nursing a hamstring injury, and it's unclear if he will play.

His absence would be a blow to the South Americans, but defense is the real key with coach Oscar Tabarez expecting to see less of the ball.

"I think very often there's the mistaken belief that ball possession leads to scoring opportunities," said Tabarez, who took over in 2006.

"If you don't have ball possession, you can still inflict pain."

Belgium's high scorers take on Brazil's miserly defense

To get past Belgium in the quarterfinals at the World Cup, Brazil has to do something it has not been able to do since it last won the tournament in 2002: overcome European op-

position in the knockout stages.

Since beating Germany 2-0 in the 2002 World Cup final, the five-time winner has been eliminated by European sides in the three subsequent competitions. Brazil lost to France and the Netherlands in the quarterfinals of the 2006 and 2010 World Cups and was humiliated 7-1 by Germany in the semifinals four years ago at home.

Fortunately for the Selecao, Belgium has a poor record against South American sides at the World Cup. Not only has Belgium not won any of its games against South American teams in the knockout stages, it hasn't even managed to score a goal. Most recently, Belgium lost 1-0 to Argentina in the 2014 quarterfinals.

The core of that side remains in place in Russia, where Belgium has won all four of its matches, including coming back from 2-0 down to beat Japan in the round of 16 with a thrilling counterattack in the final seconds of injury time.

Everyone knew about the array of talent running through the Belgium side, from Thibaut Courtois in goal to Kevin De Bruyne in midfield and Eden Hazard and Romelu Lukaku up front. The main questions following disappointing defeats in the 2014 World Cup and the 2016 European Championship centered on the team's character.

That 3-2 victory over Japan was the first time a team has overcome a two-goal deficit to win outright since West Ger-

many beat England in 1970, and the first to do it in regulation since Portugal came from three down to beat North Korea in 1966. It has fueled confidence inside the Belgium camp that it can deal with adversity and make the World Cup semifinals for the first time since 1986.

"Maybe it's this sort of match that we needed for the future," said Hazard, the captain.

Coach Roberto Martinez won praise for his substitutions, with both Marouane Fellaini and Nacer Chadli scoring, the latter with practically the last kick of the match.

"You have to find solutions, you have to find reaction but what you have to find more than anything is the desire and togetherness of a group of players, that they are desperate to perform," Martinez said.

Unlike the game against Japan, Martinez said, Belgium will be the underdog Friday in the quarterfinal in Kazan, and as such, should play with a certain amount of freedom.

"I think it's a game that when you are a little boy, you dream of being involved in a World Cup, facing Brazil in a quarterfinal," he said, "so from our point of view we can enjoy from the first second."

Brazil coach Tite dismissed talk that his team is the favorite to win the match against Belgium, let alone the World Cup.

"Everything is open, up for grabs," he said.

The winner will play France or Uruguay in the semifinals in St. Petersburg on Tuesday.

CNMI

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timate inning, the hosts countered with only one run (unearned), as the CNMI made a couple of big defensive plays. After PH posted its second run, it managed to bring runners at first and third, however the fourth batter flied out at right field with Arby Yaguel catching the ball and then throwing to first baseman Vicente Camacho, who beat a runner heading back for the double play and the end of the inning.

After that crucial stop, Vicente Camacho whacked a single that brought home Leve'que Iguel at the top of the seventh inning and increased the CNMI's lead, 4-2. The scores remained, as the Commonwealth players hung tough on defense anew at the bottom of the seventh. Vicente Camacho grounded out at the PH's leadoff batter, while closer Norita walked the second batter, who was then forced out at second after third batter Kennedy Torres had a fielder's choice. One out away from punching a ticket to the World Series, the CNMI made things happen right in the ensuing play, as shortstop Pedro Maratita picked up a grounder from Kenneth Torres and threw to Vicente Camacho for the third out.

The Asia Pacific champion CNMI is back in the World Series after missing the tour-

namment in 2016 and 2017. In 2015, the CNMI Senior All-Stars, who were managed by Greg Camacho, went to Bangor, Maine to represent the region in the World Series. This year's competition will take place in Easley, South Carolina from June 28 to Aug. 6.

The win against the Philippines in the finals was third in a row in the two-day playoff for the CNMI, which entered the knockout stage with only one victory (versus Indonesia) against two losses. In the playoffs, the Commonwealth bets first beat Hong Kong, 6-3, and then pulled off an upset over the then unbeaten Guam (4-0) in yesterday's semis game.

It was also the sixth-inning uprising that propelled the CNMI past Guam. Goru Camacho's wards were ahead by only two after five complete innings, 4-2, before bagging five runs at the top of the sixth to pull away. Guam failed to score at the bottom of the sixth and was also shut down at the bottom of the seventh with a quick 1-2-3. CNMI pitcher Pedro Maratita caught a fly ball from Manny Babauta, while Aven Evangelista and Vicente Camacho teamed up for a 4-3 putout play on John Cruz. For the third out, Vicente Camacho had a different partner in the game-ending defensive stop with Joaquin Fleming picking up a grounder at third and throwing to first to beat Guam's Ethan Lobaton.

2nd Annual Spearfishing Rescue Training

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



A Marianas Apnea Spearfishing Club member demonstrates rescue techniques during the 2nd Annual Spearfishing Rescue Training held last month.



Marianas Apnea Spearfishing Club members gesture while conducting water safety lessons.



Marianas Apnea Spearfishing Club's Morito Asai, left, demonstrates the proper tilting of the head of a drowning victim.



A volunteer demonstrates proper CPR techniques.



Marianas Apnea Spearfishing Club members and spearfishing enthusiasts pose for a photo before heading down the water.



Marianas Apnea Spearfishing Club members pose with DPS Boating Safety personnel before undergoing a spearfishing seminar last month.



Marianas Apnea Spearfishing Club's Morita Asai gestures to participants of the rescue training session at Aquasmith in Garapan.



A Marianas Apnea Spearfishing Club member helps bring up a diver.



Federer, Serena
advance;
Wozniacki out

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Red Sox complete
3-game sweep
of slumping
Nationals

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

CNMI off to World Series

Another singles title within Carol's reach

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI's Carol Lee is on course to a third straight singles crown after marching into the semifinals of the Oceania Open Junior Championships yesterday at the Regional Tennis Centre Nadovu Park in Fiji.

Lee, who won the 2018 Northern Marianas Junior Championships on Saipan in May and last week's South Pa-

cific Open Junior Championships 2018 in Lautoka, swept her way into the Final Four of the Oceania Open after eliminating three opponents. The No. 1 seed first downed the unranked Quianyu Liu of China, 6-0, 6-2, and then scored a similar straight win over No. 2 and Japan's Mua Shigeta, 6-4, 6-2 to move into the quarterfinals. In the Round of 8, the CNMI

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Carol Lee, seen here in a file photo returning a shot, advanced to the semifinals of the singles event of the Oceania Open Junior Championships yesterday in Lautoka, Fiji.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Players of the CNMI Senior All-Star Team celebrate after beating the Philippines, 4-2, in the finals of the 2018 Asia Pacific-Middle East Regional Tournament yesterday at the Global Villages, Clark Freeport Zone in Pampanga. The ASPAC champions will be going to the World Series in South Carolina later this month.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI Senior All-Star Team earned a trip to the World Series after pulling off a 4-2 finals victory against the Philippines in the 2018 Asia Pacific-Middle East Regional Tournament yesterday at the Global Villages, Clark Freeport Zone in Pampanga, Philippines.



A three-run top of the sixth inning set up the CNMI's title win, which came after the Doru Camacho-managed squad stunned the No. 1 seed and perennial rival Guam in the semifinal game in the morning, 9-2.

After being silent in the first five innings and the Philippines ahead, 1-0, the CNMI Senior All-Stars finally made it to the board at the top of the fifth, thanks to Trevon Lieto's RBI double. Vicente Camacho scored on Lieto's hit, while the Philippines got its first run (earned) at the bottom of the fourth.

Joel Norita then made it two in a row for the CNMI and put his team on top when he reached off the Philippines' error, while J.P. Celis gave the visiting crew more breathing room, 3-1, when he also scored from a passed ball. The Commonwealth bets registered the three straight runs after being called for two early outs at the top of the sixth.

At the bottom of the pen-
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France-Uruguay pits speed vs defense



Uruguay's Cristhian Stuani, center, is airborne with Portugal's Jose Fonte during the round of 16 match at the 2018 soccer World Cup at the Fisht Stadium in Sochi, Russia, Saturday, June 30, 2018.

N I Z H N Y
NOVGOROD,
Russia (AP)—

France picked up two trophies in 1998: One, of course, was the country's only World Cup title, won on home soil. It was also the birth year of Kylian Mbappe, the 19-year-old who's emerging as one of the biggest stars of the World Cup.

"Well, that was a good year for him to be born, even if he didn't see much of the 1998 World Cup," joked French coach Didier Deschamps, who was the captain in '98. "I'm very happy that Mbappe is a French citizen."

It will be France's searing speed led by Mbappe and Antoine Griezmann against Uruguay's defense anchored



by Diego Godin on Friday in Nizhny Novgorod in the World Cup quarterfinals. The winner will face Brazil or Belgium.

Uruguay has given up only one goal in four World Cup matches, and France has scored seven—most in the 4-3 victory over Argentina in the round of 16.

In scoring twice against Argentina, Mbappe became the first teenager with multiple goals in a World Cup knockout game since a 17-year-old Pele did it twice (including a hat trick against France) in 1958.

It's a big stage with inevitable comparisons that Mbappe smiled about and

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